

Algerian reform cabinet named

ALGERIA (R) — Algerian Prime Minister Mohamed Hamrouche, appointed a week ago to speed democratic reforms, formed his cabinet Saturday, replacing all but three ministers, the official Algerian news agency AFS said. Hamrouche picked former Finance Minister Sid Ahmed Ghannouchi, a former ambassador to Belgium, as foreign minister in place of Benkhalil Benkhalil, AFS said. Benkhalil was the Algerian member of an Arab League committee which announced a fresh peace plan Saturday to try to end Lebanon's 14-year-old civil war. Energy Minister Abdelhak Benbouazza, who represents Algeria in the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), was reassigned mines minister with apparently similar responsibilities. President Chadli Benjedid appointed Hamrouche last Saturday with the task of speeding up sweeping political and economic reforms launched after youth riots last October. The changes are designed to transform Algeria from a one-party socialist state to a multi-party democracy.

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Jordan welcomes Arab League call

AMMAN (R) — Information Minister Nasouh Al Majali Saturday welcomed the new Arab League peace plan for Lebanon. "Jordan welcomes all that is included in the tripartite committee's communique which it sees as a very positive development," Majali told Reuters. "Jordan believes the steps in the communique will offer the right start to settle the crisis because it will allow the Lebanese to begin a dialogue away from constant fighting and tension." The committee, grouping Saudi Arabia, Morocco and Algeria, issued a statement in Jeddah calling for an immediate ceasefire and the setting up of a security committee to police the truce and monitor an arms embargo. The committee's seven-point plan also proposed that the Lebanese parliament convene on September 30 to prepare a "national reconciliation charter." (see story below)

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Jardaneh reports successful outcome of efforts to address debt situation Jordan to post surplus in balance of payments

By Ghadeer Taher
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — Jordan has not only rescheduled its debt and interest repayments but will also post a surplus in its balance of payments for the year 1989, Finance Minister Basel Jardaneh said Saturday.

"Now we have managed to reschedule \$700 million in debt repayments and interest for the year 1989 and we have received substantially higher Arab aid than the \$296 million we had expected this year," Jardaneh told the Jordan Times in an interview.

The finance minister outlined the measures Jordan adopted since the beginning of the year to address its foreign debt which stood at \$8.3 billion — including \$1.1 billion in undisbursed funds.

Before rescheduling its debts to Western government creditors and commercial institutions, Jordan faced debt repayments of \$1.21 billion in 1989 and \$1.28 billion in 1990. The Kingdom has now reached agreements with both the Paris Club of major Western creditors and the London Club of commercial banks to reschedule a total of \$520 million in principal repayments and \$110 million in interest, Jardaneh said. It has also reached an agreement in principle with the Soviet Union to reschedule payment of \$74 million for this year. Officials have said that the agreement covered \$190 million in debt payments to the Soviet Union, representing the amounts for the year 1989 and 1990.

"Our situation is far more comfortable than it was in terms of

covering the financial gap of \$900 million which was announced in June," Jardaneh said. "Rescheduling is on schedule and what applies in 1989 applies in 1990 although it is premature for me to go into specific details now," he added.

The minister referred to International Monetary Fund (IMF) estimates which put Jordan's financial shortfall at \$656 million for the year 1989 and \$622 million for 1990 if the Kingdom was to reschedule any of its debt repayment, received \$296 million in Arab aid and the level of imports reached a certain level.

Although the IMF put the Kingdom's import bill at \$2.61 billion for 1989, the actual figure is likely to be \$300 million less, the minister said. "But the IMF estimates could have been optimistic on other considerations, for example in earnings from transport, he said. "So the deficit and surplus will most likely offset each other."

The IMF's Arab aid figures for 1989 far exceeded the projected \$296 million which helps account for the surplus in the balance of payments this year, the minister added.

Amman reached agreement with the IMF in April on a restructuring programme which set the ground for rescheduling negotiations with its creditors. Jardaneh gave a breakdown of

the Kingdom's total foreign debts as of Dec. 31, 1988: the Kingdom owes \$3.3 billion to industrialised countries, mainly West European nations and Japan; \$1.1 billion to commercial banks; \$1.8 billion to international agencies and Arab funds which do not have rescheduling terms, \$800 million to leasing (including amounts involved aircraft leasing by Royal Jordanian) and special bonds; and \$1.3 billion to other creditors, mainly the Soviet Union. The total of \$8.3 billion, represents "committed loans," Jardaneh said. The amount of undisbursed funds included in the total is \$1.1 billion he said, explaining that the Kingdom's actual debt stood at \$7.2 billion.

Jardaneh pointed out that repayments to aid agencies do not pose a burden to the treasury because "they are on a continuous basis and the country receives more than it pays."

Jordan and the World Bank are currently discussing a \$150 million concessional loan to support the Kingdom's balance of payments. But Jardaneh does not expect the loan to be disbursed during the current year, since Jordan has already posted a surplus in balance of payments for 1989. An expected co-financier for the loan is Japan, which will provide a similar amount, the minister added.

"Review session"

The finance minister confirmed that he was leaving for Washington later this week for talks with World Bank and IMF officials, but said the meetings were only a "review session" of the austerity measures that Jordan had



Basel Jardaneh

adopted. "The fundamentals (of the Jordanian economy) as they stand today are encouraging... there is a danger that rumours and speculation could damage the dynamism," he said. But he voiced optimism that ongoing talks in Tunis between the Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) and its counterparts from the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) members would be successful to attract deposits from the GCC central banks to boost the Kingdom's reserves and thus help counter "any such speculation" against the Jordanian dinar.

The minister said it was too early to define the terms of the expected deposits since "everything is subject to the Tunis negotiations" between CBJ Governor Mohammad Saeed Al Nabulsi and his GCC counterparts who were meeting on the fringes of a conference of Arab central banks.

Jardaneh said there was a marked improvement in home-ward remittances made by Jordanian expatriates as reflected by several indicators. One of the indicators was a "substantial" increase in real estate purchases by Jordanian expatriates during July, August and September. He said he could not give any figures for expected expatriate remittances, which totalled \$800 million last year. Nabulsi has put the figure at about \$1 billion.

ACC prime ministers open talks in Baghdad

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Heads of governments of the four members of the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) countries — Egypt, North Yemen, Iraq and Jordan — opened a two-day meeting here Saturday to pave the way for an ACC summit scheduled for Sept. 25 in Sanaa, North Yemen.

Prime ministers Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker of Jordan, Atef Sidki of Egypt, and Abdul Aziz Abdul Ghani of North Yemen and Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yassin Ramadan were received at the outset of their talks by Iraqi President Saddam Hussein who hosted a lunch in their honour.

ACC Secretary General Hilmi Nammur was quoted by Iraqi newspapers here as saying that the heads of government will discuss 19 agreements prepared by the four member states covering cooperation in various fields. He said the four countries intend to move carefully on economic cooperation in order to lead the experiment towards success.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said that the four heads of governments would set up a standing bureau for the ACC ministerial council.

Sharif Zaid, who is accompanied by a delegation of the ministers of state for cabinet affairs, the ministers of transport, justice and planning and other officials, including the Royal Jordanian director general, made a statement at Baghdad airport expressing hope that the meetings would contribute further towards enhancing cooperation among the four states.

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Chinese minister arrives with message to King

AMMAN (J.T.) — Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qun arrived here Saturday in the course of a Middle Eastern tour that will also take him to Egypt, Syria, and Tunisia for talks on China's relations with the Arab World and on international issues including the Middle East and the Palestine problem.

Qian said upon arrival that he was carrying a written message to His Majesty King Hussein from the Chinese leadership. He did not disclose its contents.

China has been actively supporting Arab causes and a strong advocate of Palestinian rights and follows with interest developments in the region and King Hussein's efforts to establish a just and permanent peace, Qian said in an arrival statement at the airport.

"Jordan has played a significant role in the past, and we are confident that it will maintain the momentum and play a positive role in the future," Qian was quoted as saying by the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

Qian said that China was determined to promote and strengthen its ties with Jordan in all fields. He said China supports all efforts to solve the Middle East conflicts and expressed his country's willingness to "make every possible effort to push forward a just and comprehensive peace in this region."

Qian said that role is due to China's permanent membership on the Security Council, a position it shares with the United States, the Soviet Union, France and the United Kingdom. Qian praised peace moves by the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and urged Israel to take "a similar positive stand so a peace process can start in the

region."

China has no diplomatic ties with Israel and has recognised the Palestinian state declared last year.

A Chinese embassy spokesman said Qian's talks during his three-day visit to Amman would include the Arab-Israeli conflict, prospects for peace between Iraq and Iran, Lebanon, and trade.

Last year China imported Jordanian goods worth \$28 million, mainly phosphates, while trade in the other direction was worth about \$5.5 million. Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem and senior Jordanian officials as well as Chinese embassy staff were at the airport to welcome the Chinese official.

Official Jordanian-Chinese talks which began later Saturday at the Foreign Ministry. The talks covered the developments in the

international arena and the Middle East region and the two sides agreed that "the political option is the only option to solve the Middle East question," Petra said. Both sides agreed that there was no alternative to attaining a just and comprehensive settlement except on a solution based on Israel's withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories, the right of the Palestinian people's self-determination on their national soil as well as security for all countries in the region.

The two sides also stressed that this could only be reached through holding an international peace conference. They furthermore, expressed support for the PLO's diplomatic efforts and condemned Israel's intransigence and negative positions.

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Arab panel outlines Lebanon plan, urges urgent ceasefire

JEDDAH (Agencies) — An Arab League committee Saturday called for an "immediate and comprehensive" ceasefire as a first step to comprehensive peace in Lebanon, and Syria immediately accepted the call.

Saudi Arabian Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal read the declaration from the tripartite Arab committee, comprising Saudi Arabia's King Fahd, Moroccan King Hassan and Algerian President Chadli Benjedid.

However, gunners skirmished with mortars and machine guns across Beirut's dividing green line and the mountains southeast of the capital Saturday.

Police said no casualties were reported from the intermittent clashes which continued hours after the three-nation mediation committee issued the ceasefire call and said it was sending a delegate Sunday to implement the truce and a peace plan.

A police spokesman said he doubted any ceasefire would take place before the arrival of the delegate, Algerian diplomat Lakhdar Brahimi.

An aide to army commander Michel Aoun, speaking on condition of anonymity, said any comment from the general on the truce call was "unlikely" before the arrival of Ibrahim.

In Damascus, the Syrian Arab News Agency (SUNA) quoted unnamed officials as welcoming the ceasefire call.

"The Syrian government is convinced that the implementation of these security measures will lead to preventing bloodshed and will pave the way to solving the Lebanese crisis," an official was quoted as saying.

The official called on "all the Lebanese parties" to cooperate with the Arab League delegate. The ceasefire call was issued after a meeting in Jeddah of Saudi and the Algerian and Moroccan foreign ministers. The ceasefire demand was the first point in a seven-point peace plan contained in the communique.

But Saud told a news conference, "since its inception, the committee has made it clear it is not to impose, punish or assume any hegemonic practices on any party."

"The committee has specifically been authorised to offer clear resolutions toward restoring peace in Lebanon. The committee possesses no weapons with which it would impose its will in Lebanon."

The Saudi minister was responding to a question on how



A girl stands on the rubble of her destroyed west Beirut house. Savage fighting eased across the battered city amid efforts by an Arab League committee to halt the bloodshed.

30 at a location to be decided later to "discuss and prepare" reforms to the 45-year-old political system that has traditionally been controlled by the Christians. Muslims are demanding a greater share of power.

However, the committee stressed that discussing reforms "will be done after consolidating the ceasefire, lifting of all ports blockades and reopening of Beirut international airport."

Saud urged Lebanon's parliament, which has not convened for a year, to meet on Sept. 30 "to discuss and prepare a national reconciliation charter."

This should be based on constitutional reform, reinstatement of the authority of Lebanese forces, Israeli withdrawal, and discussion by parliament of Lebanese-Syrian relations.

"The solution to Lebanon demands the withdrawal of Israeli forces," Saud said. "All parties in Lebanon call for the withdrawal of Israel and it is not an issue of conflict between the Lebanese factions."

The U.N. secretary general welcomed the Arab League declaration.

Javier Perez de Cuellar said he "welcomes the declaration from the tripartite committee... and renews his commitment of full support to their efforts to resolve the crisis in Lebanon," according to a statement released through his spokeswoman.

Perez de Cuellar had sent his personal envoy to the Middle East to talk to Arab leaders after the U.N. Security Council appealed Aug. 15 for an immediate ceasefire in Lebanon and asked him to maintain contact with the Arab League committee.

The United States also welcomed the call as a step towards national reconciliation, President George Bush said Saturday.

"The United States welcomes the declaration of the Arab League tripartite committee to renew its efforts to resolve the crisis in Lebanon," the White House said in a statement.

"We are pleased that the declaration calls for a ceasefire and lifting of the blockade and sets a date for a meeting of Lebanon's parliamentarians to discuss national reconciliation."

It said the U.S. embassy in Beirut, closed earlier this month after anti-U.S. demonstrations by supporters of Aoun, would be reopened as soon as the United States believed it was safe to do so.

Soldier wounded in demarcation line incident

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer with agency dispatches

AMMAN — A Jordanian soldier was injured by gunfire on the demarcation line with Israel in an apparent accident Saturday, a Jordanian military spokesman said. Israel said two of its soldiers were also wounded, apparently in the incident in which gunfire was exchanged between the two sides.

A Jordanian military spokesman, in a statement carried by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said: "At 4:45 a.m. one of our

soldiers patrolling the River Jordan bank felt a strange movement and opened fire in its direction. It seems that the Israeli patrols on the opposite side fired towards the same direction, slightly wounding the soldier."

The soldier apparently hit Israeli soldiers, as Israel reported two of its soldiers were shot and wounded at about the same time and place of the accident.

An Israeli army spokesman said in statements carried by international news agencies and Israel Radio that an army patrol

"came under fire (on the West Bank of the River Jordan) and returned fire towards the source of the fire and in searching after the event found six M-16 magazines next to the river." But the spokesman maintained that the identity of the "attackers" were not confirmed.

A Jordanian official quoted by the Associated Press also said the exchange of fire appeared to be an accident. He said the only shots from the Jordanian side of the demarcation line were fired "by this soldier."

"It was night, and when you are on the ceasefire line, (you know) how alert you are to any unusual movement," he told the AP.

The army spokesman said the incident occurred the Majamma Bridge in the northern Jordan Valley.

Israel's army command reported that the exchange of gunfire occurred at the northern settlement of Ashdot Yacov, along the demarcation line about five kilometres south of the Sea of Galilee.

Arafat, Mubarak discuss Egypt's 10-point proposal

CAIRO (Agencies) — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat returned to Cairo Saturday for talks with Egypt's President Hosni Mubarak on Middle East peace efforts, officials said.

It was the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) chairman's second visit to the Egyptian capital in a week.

Egypt has been trying to break the deadlock over possible elections among Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip by proposing a list of 10 election guarantees.

So far, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and his cabinet colleagues have failed to reach agreement on the Egyptian suggestions, while Arafat's political adviser, Bassam Abu Sharif, says he is prepared to discuss Cairo's

plan with Israeli Labour Party leaders. The Egyptian ideas have sharpened differences between Israel's ruling coalition partners, the rightwing Likud and its junior partner, the Labour Party.

A senior official said Mubarak and Arafat met for 90 minutes at the president's residence about his 10-point plan.

Speaking on condition of anonymity, the official also repeated the second part of what has become a double-barrelled Egyptian initiative.

"Cairo is ready to host a Palestinian delegation from within and without the occupied territories and an Israeli delegation for talks about the Palestinian problem that would be linked to a

comprehensive solution to be reached gradually in stages."

After his talk with Mubarak, Arafat went to the Foreign Ministry and met with Sten Andersson, the visiting Swedish foreign minister who was a key intermediary between the United States and the PLO last year.

A Kuwaiti newspaper reported Friday that Arafat had decided to postpone for a month a trip to the United States to address the U.N. General Assembly.

The newspaper Al Watan said the decision followed U.S. and Arab advice. It said Washington made it clear that it was "not interested in another showdown with Congress and the Zionist lobby over the Palestinian problem."

Candidates allowed to print posters

AMMAN (J.T.) — Candidates will be allowed to begin printing pamphlets and posters for their election campaigns on the condition that they are not distributed before Oct. 14 and are authorised by the governor of the concerned district, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of the Interior Salem Masadeh announced Saturday.

According to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, Masadeh issued a series of instructions which will govern the registration of candidates in the national elections scheduled for Nov. 8.

"In accordance with Article 18 of law 60 of 1986," a candidate will be required to present an official document which proves that the candidate has been a Jordanian citizen for ten years and does not "carry another nationality or enjoys foreign protection," Petra said.

The candidate, whose name has to be listed in the final list of voters in his district, has to prove that he or she has completed 30 lunar years by the last day of candidate registration.

The candidate will also be required to present a certificate which proves that he or she "has not been convicted and served a prison term of over a year for a non-political crime, and has not been pardoned or convicted of a moral offence," the agency said.

Confrontation looms in Armenia

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet Armenia Saturday looked set for a head-on collision with neighbouring Azerbaijan over the disputed territory of Nagorno-Karabakh.

During an extraordinary session of the Armenian parliament, a member said Azerbaijan had blocked food and fuel from Armenia through a rail strike to back its side of the argument.

The parliamentary session was expected to reject an overnight vote in Azerbaijan for an end to Moscow rule over the enclave — mainly populated by Armenians

but situated within Azerbaijan. Eduard Mirzoyan, a member of the Armenian and Soviet parliaments, denounced strikes in Azerbaijan over the territory which he said had paralysed rail links and forced a virtual economic blockade of Armenia.

"According to Mirzoyan, the rail link from Azerbaijan is at a standstill and authorities in Moscow are doing nothing to restore it," said a journalist at the Armenian news agency, Armenpress.

Some 87 per cent of supplies to Armenia from elsewhere in the

country go through Azerbaijan. Deputies were due later to discuss the status of Nagorno-Karabakh.

Armenian journalists said the parliament was likely to condemn the Azerbaijan vote, which called for the abolition of a Kremlin commission set up in January to take temporary control of the troubled region.

They were also expected to reaffirm demands for Nagorno-Karabakh to be put instead under Armenian control.

Lebanese refugees live in squalor unlike some in Faraya

By Donna Abu Nasr
The Associated Press

AWALI RIVER, Lebanon — Iman Batal clustered her whimpering, hungry children around her beside their makeshift tent and said: "We only eat meat in our dreams."

The family is among the tens of thousands of people who have fled Beirut in six months of fierce shelling between Falangist and Syrian forces. They live hand-to-mouth in squalid camps in South Lebanon and the mountains north-east of the city, their ragged tents fashioned from blankets and plastic sheets.

But in the fashionable ski resorts in the mountains that have largely escaped the carnage, well-heeled Beirutis with Ferraris and Porsches cavort by swimming pools and pack the nightclubs.

In Faraya, 19 miles (30 kilometres) northeast of Beirut, many pay \$8,000 to lease luxury chalets for six months.

But most are not so lucky. Elie Haddad and his family have spent the last four months in a shelter of nylon sheets, cardboard and tree branches at a camp near the St. Shabel Maronite Catholic Church in the mountains.

Haddad, his wife and their five children, ages 4 to 11, watched helplessly when their shelter, on a rock-studded hillside overlooking vineyards, was demolished by torrential unseasonal rains a few days ago.

"What are we going to do when the rainy season starts?" Mrs. Haddad lamented. Police estimate about 1.35

million of Beirut's 1.5 million residents have abandoned their homes in the shell-battered city during the last few months, fleeing the battles in which 850 people have been killed and 2,500 wounded.

Many rich west Beirutis have left for Syria or other countries, the route to Damascus is less hazardous than the nerve-wrecking boat trip from Jounieh Port that Falangists have to make to go abroad.

Many refugees have moved in with relatives and friends, or rented apartments — or anything they can find — in south, north and east Lebanon. Rents are often exorbitant.

But an estimated 35,000 people, like the Batal and the Haddads, are living like hobos, squatting in mosques, churches, schools, empty buildings and fields.

The Haddads fled their home in the Asrafieh neighbourhood, close to Beirut's dividing green line and one of the worst-hit Christian districts, because their apartment block had no bomb shelter.

"Now we're refugees in our own country," Haddad said. Despite their perilous situation, the Haddads and other Christian families around the church at Innaya are better off than many other refugees. The church has provided outdoor latrines, fresh water and some food.

Haddad is a police officer, who reports for duty every couple of days. He's luckier than many like him because he gets paid regularly and can buy food and other essentials.

Batal, a Sunni Muslim, is penniless, with 11 months to feed. He worked at a tile fac-

tory until it closed four months ago because there was no electricity and few employees were showing up because of the shelling.

"We've sold our washing machine, the television set and the refrigerator to buy food," Mrs. Batal said. "We've nothing else to sell. Most of our belongings were smashed in the bombardment. Now the money's run out."

The Batal family live with 1,500 other Beirutis on the banks of the Awali River, 40 kilometres south of the capital. They fled there two months ago after their apartment in the Ein Mreissieh district of mainly Muslim west Beirut was hit by a 155mm shell.

For many around the Awali, this is catastrophe revisited. They were among a half-million people who fled Beirut during Israel's 1982 invasion of Lebanon.

Batal watches in despair as his children, ages 1 to 10 barefooted and clad in soiled, tattered clothes, go hungry in the miserable camp just north of Sidon.

Their most acute problem is lack of water. There is only one faucet for about 300 families. There also are no latrines. Some of the refugees use a toilet in a nearby gas station, when the owners allow them.

Mostly they use the sluggish, shallow Awali for everything. They urinate in it, bathe in it, drink its water and wash their clothes and cooking utensils in it.

Others have built makeshift toilet cubicles, using cardboard boxes around a hole in the ground. When one hole is tiled, they dig another. The

stench of human excrement and piles of garbage pervade the camp.

Mrs. Batal said she has worn the same clothes she had on when she fled Beirut.

"I take a bath, fully clothed, in the river," she said, boiling a pan full of potatoes, the only food many of the refugees can get, over an open fire. Her hungry children huddled around her.

Michel Dufour, chief of the International Committee of the Red Cross team in Lebanon, said his group has supplied medicine to clinics in South Lebanon to treat skin problems among refugees.

"We haven't yet found any cases of typhoid, but danger is there because the river has become a health hazard," he said.

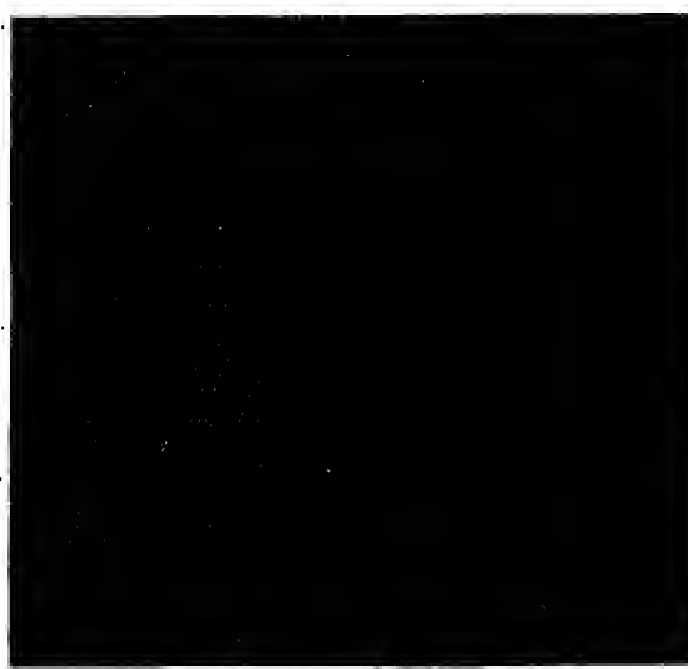
The Red Cross also has handed out food, blankets, kitchen sets and cleaning materials. A sanitation engineer was recently sent from Geneva.

But that aid, bolstered by food and blankets supplied by rival militias, is woefully inadequate.

The exodus from Beirut has sent prices soaring in regions like South Lebanon. A two-room unfurnished apartment in Sidon, south of the Awali, rented for \$50 a month before March. Now it costs \$400.

Prices of bread, meat and vegetables have doubled in recent months. A grocer in Sidon said 100 kilograms of sugar took seven months to sell before March. Now, with swollen demand, it goes in three days.

The influx of refugees has antagonised the people of the



A small girl who escaped the carnage of Beirut with her family rests inside a tent erected at the bank of the Awali River. South, mostly Shi'ite Muslims, who have to pay the same inflated prices.

The conservative southerners also are offended by mini-skirted Beirut girls in the streets of Sidon and Tyre and the free-wheeling big-city lifestyle of the refugees who have taken over hotels and apartment blocks.

"These visitors must respect the social traditions of this region," a Sunni clergyman in the village of Mazboud declared.

"Women must be decently dressed in line with Muslim custom. Our young men are not accustomed to the way of life in the big city."

The wealthy Lebanese from the Falangist enclave packing

Kandahar crowds greet big convoy

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan (R)

Cheering crowds festooned tanks with garlands of flowers when one of the biggest Afghan military convoys of the 11-year civil war rumbled into this besieged southeastern city Friday.

The convoy travelled more than 1,000 kilometres from the town of Torgundi on the Soviet border, taking nearly three weeks and making forays into Mujahideen rebel areas, General Nurul Haq Ullahi, governor of Kandahar province, said.

Soldiers sacrificed a sheep on the road in a thanksgiving ritual. Trucks and tanks splashed through the pool of blood.

The convoy — 300 military trucks, 300 civilian ones and an armoured brigade of several hundred vehicles — was spread out over 150 kilometres. They brought food and weapons for Kandahar and nearby towns.

"This is the first time a convoy of this size has been assembled," Ullahi said. "They passed with flying colours. This makes the army confident," he told foreign reporters.

The first vehicles arrived Thursday and the last group was expected to pull in Saturday, Ullahi said.

Mujahideen guerrillas harassed the convoy several times with rockets. One tank was destroyed when it ran over a mine and three trucks were badly damaged dur-

ing the trip, he said. The Mujahideen leadership in Pakistan said they had damaged or destroyed at least 10 vehicles.

The armoured brigade also went on search operations to clear Mujahideen-controlled areas of the highway and wipe out their bases in the west and the south, Ullahi said.

Afghan supply convoys have in the past made deals with local Mujahideen commanders, giving them some supplies in exchange for safe conduct.

But the general said this was not the case this time. "They didn't get one piece of meat."

He said new security posts were being set up in the desert plains beyond Kandahar near the border with Pakistan to cut off guerrilla supply routes.

Days before the convoy reached Kandahar, the Mujahideen began a new offensive in the north of the country.

Rebel spokesman said guerrilla Commander Ahmad Shah Massoud had launched a long-expected assault on the Salang Highway Monday and had closed it for three days.

But an Afghan government spokesman Friday denied the rebel claim.

The highway is the only major road linking Kabul to government-held areas in northern Afghanistan.

Kuwait urges Rafsanjani to spur regional stability

KUWAIT (AP) — Kuwait's

Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad was quoted Friday as saying his country's relations with Tehran are improving, and urged Iran's new President Hashemi Rafsanjani to work for stability in the Gulf region.

"Our relations with Iran are not bad. They had reached the extent of missile-firing, but they are now better," said Sheikh Sabah in an interview with the Lebanese weekly magazine Al Oubon Al Arabi also released here.

He said Kuwait has accepted Iran's nomination of Hussein Sadeqi, director of Gulf affairs at the Iranian Foreign Ministry, as ambassador to Kuwait.

"I think our relations will be better in future and such relations will help clear the (Gulf) atmosphere after the ceasefire," he said. In the Iran-Iraq war, Sheikh Sabah said, Iran often attacked Kuwaiti shipping lanes during the Gulf

hostilities, accusing the tiny Gulf Arab state of supporting Iraq's war effort.

Iranian forces also fired several missiles into Kuwaiti territory during the 8-year war, halted by a U.N.-sponsored ceasefire one year ago.

Despite the strain, Tehran and Kuwait maintained low-level diplomatic ties.

"I know President Rafsanjani well and I think he is capable of pushing affairs toward stability. But we have to concede he has lost," Sabah said, in reference to hardliners opposed to the new Iranian president's moderate policies.

The Emir of Kuwait, Sheikh

Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah starts a visit to Iraq on Sept. 23. His talks will focus on the stalled Iran-Iraq peace talks which began after the ceasefire took hold.

The foreign minister said the talks in Paris with President Francois Mitterrand will deal with a variety of issues topped by the Lebanese crisis, the Arab-Israeli problem, the Gulf and international indebtedness.

The minister said the dispatch of French naval units to the eastern Mediterranean last month "could have exacerbated the situation" in war-torn Lebanon, where Falangist forces and Syrian troops have been locked in a ferocious confrontation for six months.

The Kuwaiti minister, who headed an Arab committee on Lebanon earlier this year, blamed pro-Syrian factions for the failure of his mission.

He said they had agreed to a peace proposal during meetings with him, but then changed their minds. He did not elaborate.

A new committee comprising King Fahd of Saudi Arabia, King Hassan II of Morocco and Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid now is trying to end the Lebanon bloodshed.

Sabah said: "I regret to say that there are certain parties who do not want to see the Lebanese crisis resolved."

Asked about the recent withdrawal of the U.S. embassy staff from east Beirut, he said: "Before criticising the Americans we should blame ourselves. As Arabs, we didn't maintain embassies in Beirut."

Alexandria balcony collapse claims 10 lives

ALEXANDRIA, Egypt (AP) —

Tragedy struck at a wedding when the second-floor balcony of an old house collapsed, killing 10 people and injuring 17, a police official said Saturday.

The official, who demanded anonymity, said the dead were three children aged 1 to 9, six women and a man. None of the

injured was in critical condition, he said.

The accident occurred Thursday night in the working-class district of Karmouz in the western part of this Mediterranean seaport as residents joined in dancing and other wedding festivities on a small street.

Massive Soviet aid to keep Kabul from starvation

By Bill Tarrant
Renter

KABUL — Massive Soviet aid will ensure Afghanistan does not starve during the harsh winter despite Mujahideen rebel control over much of the countryside, a top government official said.

"You should be confident that the Soviet Union will not leave us in hunger," First Deputy Prime Minister Mahmood Baryalai told foreign reporters.

He said Kabul had stockpiled 35,000 tons of wheat from the Soviet Union to see the city through the winter.

"We have completed our food-stuff preparations for the winter," he said.

International relief agencies say Kabul needs to put away at least another 60,000 tons before the roads ice over.

Tens of thousands of people are leaving the capital every month as prices soar in markets ahead of winter and merchants and traders begin to hoard, aid workers say.

Baryalai said the government was distributing 500 tons of food a day to the 1.5 million ration card-holders in Kabul, which has a population of around two million.

"As for reserves, the danger of last winter we do not face this winter," Baryalai said. Some 40 Aeroflot cargo planes fly into Kabul each day with 5,000 tons of goods from the Soviet Union.

The planes take off and land in a tight corkscrew pattern and send out magnesium flares to avoid the rockets and heat-seeking missiles fired by Mujahideen guerrillas from the hills around the capital.

A convoy of about 1,300 trucks and military vehicles taking food and weapons to the key southern

city of Kandahar has finally arrived.

Baryalai said the convoy had been attacked by rebel rockets and "two or three vehicles" had been damaged.

"Our opponents are not sitting idle," he said. "They know that if the convoy gets through they will lose the balance of forces."

Diplomats said the Mujahideen, having failed to take the eastern towns of Jalalabad and Khost in an effort to find a home for their interim government, might be planning an assault on Kandahar before the summer

fighting season ends.

One East Bloc diplomat said the government was worried the Mujahideen were building an airstrip in Quetta, just across the border in Pakistan, for such an attack.

Kandahar, about 110 kilometres from the Pakistani border, is the birthplace of deposed Afghan monarch Zahir Shah, who has sometimes been mentioned as a future head of a national reconciliation government in Afghanistan.

Baryalai, 47, brother of former President Babrak Karmal, was

removed from office and imprisoned for several months after a purge in 1987.

President Najibullah, who ousted Karmal sent him into exile in the Soviet Union, brought Baryalai back at the end of June seeking to mend the rifts in his divided Peoples Democratic Party of Afghanistan.

Baryalai, dressed in khaki and chain-smoking American cigarettes, said his brother was free to return to Afghanistan any time.

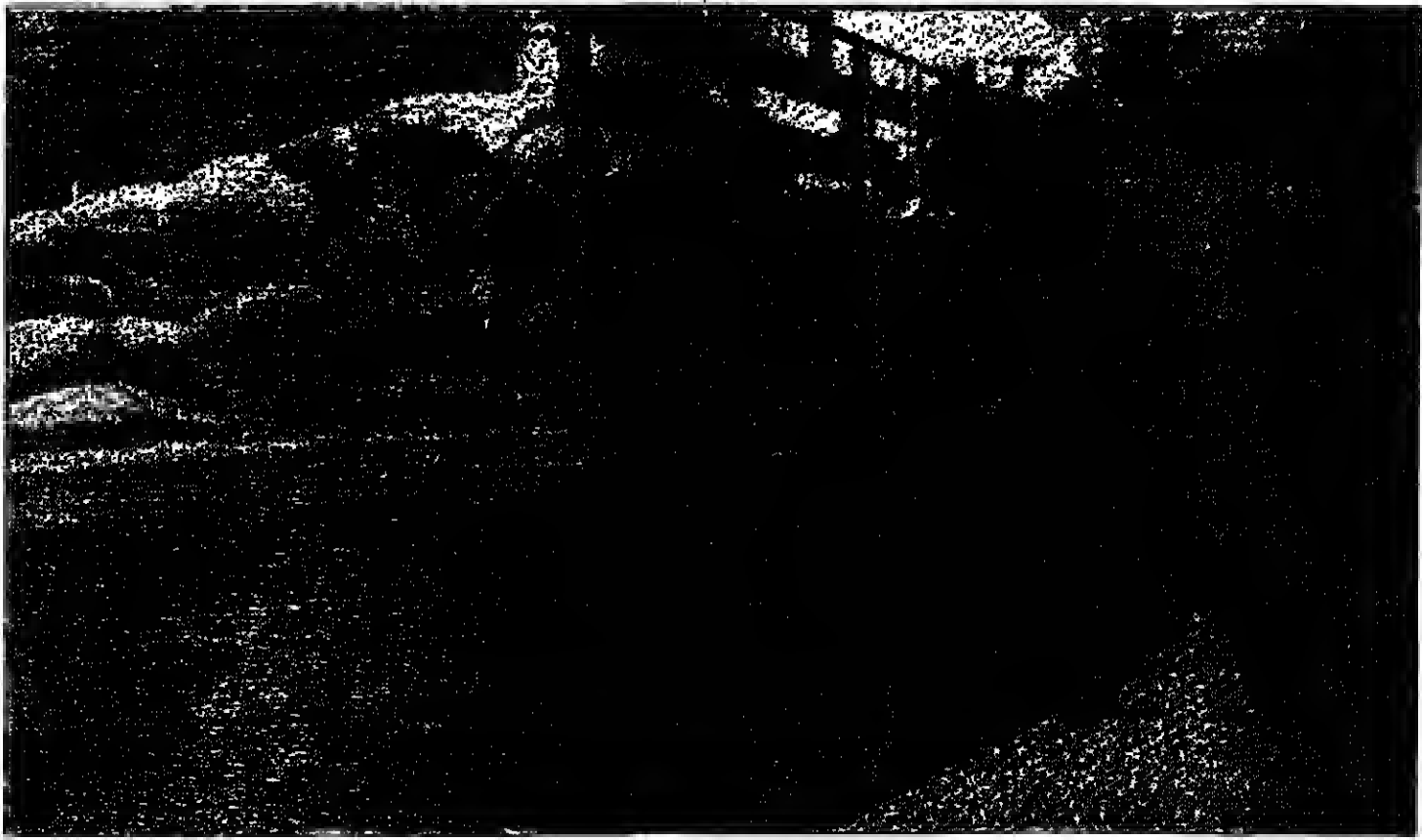
He dismissed concerns that the government had neither the fuel

nor the tankers to supply Kabul homes during the winter.

He said the government would allocate most of the diesel and petrol for military use and bring in coal for civilians.

The Soviet Union had recently provided more than 1,000 trucks in bilateral aid, Baryalai said. "The Soviet Union will never leave us in the face of U.S. aggression," he declared.

The United States is the main supplier of arms to the Mujahideen who have been fighting the Soviet-backed government in Kabul for 11 years.



Trucks line up outside the main silo in Kabul, waiting to unload sacks of grain sent from the Soviet Union.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 77111-19

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 Koran
15:40 Programme review
15:45 Children programme
17:10 Football
18:00 News summary in Arabic
18:05 Local programme
18:20 Give Me a Break
19:15 Local programme
19:40 Programme review
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Arabic series
21:40 Programme review
21:50 Local programme
22:00 Varieties programme
22:30 News summary in Arabic

PROGRAMME TWO

17:30 Le monde magique chantal goya
18:00 Loft story
18:30 Perfetto
19:00 News in French
19:15 News in English
19:30 News in Hebrew
19:45 Varieties programme
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Fool ups — Bloops & Blunders
21:10 Doc "Battle Line"
22:00 News in English
22:30 The Equilibrist

PRAYER TIMES

04:57 Fajr
05:15 Sunrise/Dhuhr
12:31 Dhuhr
13:41 'Asr
18:46 Maghreb
18:46 Isha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Switich, Tel. 810740
Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 632783
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757
Terrence Church Tel. 623366
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541
Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel. 625343
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 771361
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751
Armenian International Church Tel. 685336
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811285
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 654932

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

Normal summer weather is expected and winds will be northwesterly moderate to strong.

Min./max. temp.
Amman 18 / 30
Agaba 24 / 36
Deserts 19 / 34
Jordan Valley 22 / 37

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Walid Al-Sanadi 683266
Dr. Mohammad Al-Sawa 734036
Dr. Taysir Khadr 608857
Dr. George Sabouni 776751
First pharmacy 661912
Perdons pharmacy 778336
Al Asous pharmacy 637055
Nairoukh pharmacy 628072
Al Salam pharmacy 636730
Yacoub pharmacy 644945
Shmoussi pharmacy 637660

JERICO:

Dr. Ahmad Al Naqouri (—)
Al-Sbarsa pharmacy (983238)
ZARQA:
Dr. Ziyad Hawatneh (—)
Khalifeh pharmacy 985417

EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Department 661111
Civil Defence Immediate Rescue 630341
Rescue 199
Fire Brigade 621111, 637777
Blood Bank 775221
Highway Police 843402
Traffic Police 896390
Public Security Department 63021
Police Complaints 605800
Price Complaints 601176
Water and Sewerage Complaints 897467
Amman Municipality 787111
Telephone Information (directory assistance) 121
Overseas Calls 010230
Central Amman Telephone Repairs 623101
Abdall Telephone Repairs 661101
Jordan Television 773111
Radio Jordan 774111
Water Authority 680100
Jordan Electricity Authority 815615
Electric Power Company 636381

RJ Flight Information

Queen Alia Intl. Airport 08-53200
Queen Alia Intl. Airport 08-53200

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:
Hussein Medical Centre 813813/22
Khalid Maternity, J. Amn 642816
Akileh Maternity, J. Amn 642412
Jabal Amman Maternity 642362
Mathias, J. Amman 636140
Palestine, Shmeisani 664714
Shmeisani Hospital 669131
University Hospital 845845
Al-Mushtari Hospital 672279
The Islamic, Abdali 666127/37
Al-Ahli, Abdali 6641646
ZARQA:
Al-Basir, J. Ashrafieh 771013
Army, Marka 891611/5
Queen Alia Hospital 6024050
Amal Hospital 674155
ZARQA Gov. Hospital (09)983323
Zarqa National Hospital (09)991071
Ibn Sina Hospital (09)867632
JERICO:
Princess Beama Hospital (02)275555
Greek Catholic Hospital (02)272275
Ibn Al-Nafies Hospital (02)471100
AQABA:

Princess Haya Hospital

..... (03)314111

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) Information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (06)53200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

18:10 Jeddah (RJ)
18:10 Kuwait (RJ)
18:45 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
18:45 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
18:45 Cairo, Asmara (RJ)
17:20 Los Angeles, Chicago, Vienna (RJ)
17:45 Cairo (RJ)
17:55 Brussels, Frankfurt (RJ)
18:00 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
18:20 Paris (RJ)
18:20 Chicago, Vienna (RJ)
18:30 Cairo (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

05:20 Dubai (AZ)
12:30 Cairo (MS)
13:35 Muscat, Sharjah, Doha (GF)
14:30 Kuwait (KU)
14:45 Jeddah (SV)
17:25 Frankfurt (LH)
20:30 Baghdad (ad), (LN)
22:45 Athens (OA)
01:45 London, Cairo (BA)

DEPARTURES

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

12:30 Tunis, Casablanca (RJ)
12:30 Ankara, Istanbul (RJ)
12:45 Rome (RJ)
13:45 Cairo, Asmara (RJ)
20:40 Kuwait, Dhahran (RJ)
21:40 Larnaca (RJ)
21:45 Baghdad (ad), (LN)
21:45 Athens (OA)
22:15 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
22:15 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
22:15 Calcutta, Bangkok (RJ)
22:20 Cairo (RJ)
22:30 Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

06:25 Rome (AZ)
12:40 Damascus, Paris (AF)
14:45 Cairo (MS)
15:35 Kuwait (KU)
15:45 Doha, Bahrain (GF)

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in lbs per kg.

Apple (golden) 540 / 500
Apple (red) 600 / 550
Banana 400 / 350
Beans (Mushrooms) 350 / 300
Beans (green) 60 / 50
Carrot 350 / 300
Cabbage 140 / 100
Cauliflower 280 / 220
Custard 250 / 200
Cucumbers (large) 230 / 200
Cucumbers (small) 370 / 300
Eggplant 220 / 170
Figs 450 / 400
Grape 900 / 800
Grapes 320 / 280
Grapes (red) 320 / 280
Guava 430 / 380
Lemon (yellow) 270 / 220
Lemon (green) 210 / 170
Mango 60 / 50
Marrow (large) 250 / 200
Marrow (small) 460 / 400
Olives 640 / 560
Onion (dry) 250 / 200
Pepper (hot) 200 / 160
Pepper (sweet) 200 / 160
Pineapple 400 / 350
Potato 450 / 400
Raddish 120 / 80
Sweet melon 300 / 250
Squash 200 / 160
Tomatoes 160 / 120
Water Melon 200 / 160

Education directors discuss tree-planting

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — An enlarged meeting of the directors of Education Departments in various provinces was held at the Ministry of Education Saturday to finalise a tree-planting programme by students in the coming winter season.

At least two million trees will be planted by more than 200,000 students around the country specially in semi-desert regions and along roads and parks according to Ministry of Education sources.

The heads of departments were briefed on the plans and their role in carrying it out.

A higher committee on tree-planting has been set up for each province to direct students in their task according to ministry officials.

Seminar calls for launching blood donation campaign

AMMAN (Petra) — A four-day seminar on blood transfusion services in countries of the Eastern Mediterranean Region which opened here Saturday heard calls for the launching of wide scale campaigns to encourage people to donate blood that could be needed in times of peace and war alike.

Health Minister Zuhair Mahas who opened the sessions said people tend only to donate blood when they are called on to save patients undergoing operations but arrangements could be made for encouraging people to donate blood at all times.

"The public concept about the blood donation should be changed since blood is a very important element in preserving human life," the minister said in his opening speech.

The minister noted that special attention is being taken in Jordan to prevent any infiltration of blood coming from other countries which could be contaminated with the acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) virus.

A representative of the World Health Organisation (WHO), which is co-sponsoring the seminar with the Ministry of Health, said that it is important for each country to collect blood from its own sources to avoid danger inherent in imported blood from other countries.

The participants will also review technical and administrative matters related to the organisation and operation of blood banks and will exchange information and expertise on this service in the Mediterranean region.

The seminar is being sponsored and financed by the Arab Gulf Fund for United Nations Development Organisations (AGFUND).

Indian firm to help TCC implement austerity plan

By Suhair Obeidat
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The leading Indian telecommunication company, Indian Telephone Industries Limited (ITI), is to help Telecommunications Cooperation of Jordan (TCC) in implementing a transitional austerity plan designed to make up for the projects that the TCC was forced to shelve in line with a government decision earlier this year.

"When the five-year (national development) plan was cancelled (due to economic difficulties), the international tenders which were floated in the first quarter of 1988, were also cancelled," TCC Director General Mohammad Shahed Ismail said.

But then, he explained, due to the importance of the role of telecommunications and the economic and social developments in Jordan, the government allowed TCC to prepare a transitional austerity plan to implement the most important projects where capital expenditure is inevitable.

"This was particularly applicable to cases where, with some capital expenditure, the existing infrastructure can be maximised, mainly in the areas that have spare switching capacities," he told the Jordan Times on the sidelines of a Indo-Jordanian symposium on telecommunications technology.

Ismail said that the transitional plan is currently under preparation and is expected to be announced before the end of this year. He said he could not reveal any figures since the proposal has to be presented to the Cabinet for approval before being made public.

"During this difficult time of the transitional austerity plan, I hope that our Indian friends will again be helpful so that we can pass this era, hoping that their prices will be competitive."

Ismail was referring to a speech he delivered at the symposium, in which he highlighted the period between 1975-1980, when ITI, with its expertise, helped TCC in upgrading and modernising the electro-mechanical exchanges operating at that time in Jordan.

"This step was taken in order to allow TCC some breathing time to think and plan for the digitalisation and the introduction of integrated digital technology," he said.

According to Ismail, the equipment installed by ITI has proved to be of high standard and continued operation until the early 1980s when they were replaced by digitalisation.

Ismail voiced optimism that TCC and ITI could arrive at a high level of cooperation and pledged support for efforts aimed at achieving this goal.

The Indian Ambassador to Jordan, Gajendra Singh, also addressed the seminar, expressing his appreciation for the keen interest of TCC in ITI products and suggested that both sides share technology.

He suggested that ITI may either export their products, transfer technology, or help set up joint ventures.

The keynote address of the seminar was delivered by the chairman and managing director of ITI, U.D.N. Rao, who stressed that Jordan was among the first 40 countries supplied with ITI equipment and systems.

According to Rao, ITI has supplied Jordan with more than \$2.5 million worth of equipment.

Starting with only one factory in Bangalore in 1948, today, ITI has six factories spread all over India, with an expected turnover of \$625 million for the current year 1989-1990.

"So ITI looks forward to more opportunities to serve Jordan's telecommunication network, with modern digital electronic equipment and with cost effective solutions," Rao said.

He said that ITI's product line encompasses the entire range of telecommunication equipment, from ordinary telephones to most sophisticated digital switching and transmission systems, to optical fibre equipment and satellite communication equipment.

"ITI can take up the challenge to design, develop, produce and install the equipment, to the most stringent international specifications," Rao concluded by expressing his hope for further cooperation between Jordan and India and seconded the ambassador's suggestion of either exporting, transfer of technology, or the setting up of joint ventures.

The seminar comes as part of the Indian Trade Exhibition, organised jointly by the Indian embassy, the trade fare authority of India and ITI.

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

NEW LAW: A Royal Decree was issued Saturday approving the Civil Defence Department martyrs fund law. The law defines the funds duties. (Petra)

CABINET DECISION: The Council of Ministers, convening Saturday under the chairmanship of Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Salem Massa'deh, decided to form Jordan's delegation to the second session to the Council of Arab Development Ministers due to convene in Tunis Oct. 18. The two-day meetings will discuss matters related to cooperation among the Arab countries with regard to the preservation of the environment. A delegation led by Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Youssef Hamdan and the director of the environment department will represent Jordan to the meetings.

REPORTS: Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker Saturday issued a memorandum ordering all ministries to submit before mid-October reports on projects they achieved so far and or those underway for next year in order for the government to include them in the King's first address to the new parliament.

SWEDISH EXHIBITION TO OPEN TODAY: A photo exhibition of the History of the Monarchy in Sweden will open at the Royal Cultural Center in Amman on Sunday. Their Royal Highnesses Prince Faisal and Princess Alia Al Faisal will inaugurate the exhibition, which will signal the state visit to Jordan by their Majesty King Carl Gustaf and Queen Silvia of Sweden.

VTC announces opening of courses in 3 areas of services

AMMAN (J.T.) — In its drive to find jobs for thousands of unemployed Jordanians, the Vocational Training Corporation (VTC), which is affiliated to the Labour Ministry Saturday announced the opening of courses to train young Jordanians in three areas of services which are now provided through non-Jordanian workers.

A VTC announcement said that job seekers can now apply to get training in child care or to carry out social services for the senior and the old.

Applications can be received at nine different stations in and around Amman and the applicants should have completed their secondary education, must be above 18 years of age and male applicants should have either completed their national service or are exempted from that service as a pre-condition for acceptance, the announcement noted.

It said that at the end of the six-month training course the graduates will be awarded diplomas endorsed by the Ministry of Labour, qualifying them for employment in Jordan institutions, mother and child care centres and other organisations.

The announcement said that the VTC has received numerous requests for qualified people to work in such institutions.

Last April, the VTC announced that it made arrangements for training young people in different trades and said that priority was being given first to university graduates.

The Civil Service Commission (CSC), which normally processes the applications of job seekers wishing to work for the government, announced last July that it has applications from 45,988 job seekers, many of whom were university and community college graduates.

Cerebral Palsy Foundation launches fund raising campaign on Oct. 5

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — The Cerebral Palsy Foundation (CPF) is launching its annual fund raising campaign on Oct. 5, 1989 in Amman and other cities of Jordan.

A statement by the CPF President Fakhri Bilbeisi said that students from schools, community colleges and universities will be involved in the campaign to raise contributions to finance the treatment of cerebral palsy victims which is provided free of charge.

He said that the students will also be busy distributing pamphlets and sticking posters aimed at spreading awareness among members of the public on means of stemming cerebral palsy and providing treatment to the victims.

According to Bilbeisi, 4,000 cerebral palsy victims mostly children benefited from services provided by CPF centres in Jordan since its establishment in 1977.

The services are being offered through the CPF's four centres in Jordan which require more than JD 150,000 in annual expenses.

Yarmouk offers doctorate degree in Arabic language and literature

IRBID (J.T.) — Yarmouk University plans to open the way for post graduate students to acquire doctorate degree in Arabic language and Arabic literature now that it has sufficient numbers of very qualified staff for this programme, dean of the University's Faculty of Arts Shaker Al Hassan said in an interview with the Al Ra'i and the Jordan Times newspapers.

Hassan said that a plan for introducing improvements in the courses for English language students are also being contemplated at the moment.

"At the same time Yarmouk University encourages its staff members to conduct research and publish their work with the purpose of providing better educational services to the Arab society in Jordan and abroad," Hassan noted.

To help improve the English and French languages of students in both streams, the university has arranged for qualified teachers of English and French to run summer courses and to remain close to the students from eight in the morning until four in the evening speaking with them only in English and French.

In addition, Yarmouk University has concluded an agreement with a specialised institute in Strasbourg, in France, to train four university students at its modern languages centre in return for training four French students in Arabic language, Hassan pointed out.

He referred to other projects which Yarmouk University is now carrying out, and mentioned in particular one on population communication which is being carried out by the Faculty of Arts in cooperation with the United Nations.



Dr. Shaker Al Hassan
Dean of the Faculty of Arts at Yarmouk University.

Engineers visit university

Dean of the Faculty of Science and Technology at the University of Jordan Dr. Issam Za'abawi Saturday received the president and members of the Jordan Engineering Association and briefed them on stages the faculty has gone through as well as its educational plans. The talks dealt with means to bolster cooperation between the faculty and the association in the field of exchange of information and joint scientific research. The visiting delegation toured the faculty's facilities and listened to a briefing on the students' practical training process. (J.T.)

Jordan to attend meeting on Islamic economy today

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan will take part in a meeting Sunday for experts on Islamic economy, organised by the Jeddah-based Islamic Bank.

Representing Jordan in the meeting will be Abdul Salam Al Abbadi, Director General of the Orphan's Fund, who said that he will present a working paper to the meeting.

Abbadi also said that a number of experts on Islamic Law (Shari'a) and economy will draw up a curricula for Islamic Law designed for those holding a masters or doctorate degrees in contemporary economic sciences, with the aim of training them to become experts on Islamic fiqh.

He pointed out that the new curricula will cover a wide area of Koranic sciences, Hadith, and fiqh.

The aim of the new curriculum is to achieve deeper understanding and complete knowledge of Islamic Law, in order to use such knowledge in devising provisions and coping with the new issues.

JIEC to increase rent for factories in Sahab

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordan Industrial Estates Corporation (JIEC) plans to increase the rent for factories at Sahab Industrial City, on the outskirts of Amman, by five per cent starting from the coming year 1990, according to a statement by JIEC Director General Fayez Subeimat.

"The increase is justified because of the enormous pressure on the corporation to provide services to the ever increasing number of businesses, and to pay back the corporation's loans now estimated at more than JD 5 million," Subeimat said in a television interview Friday.

According to Subeimat, the second phase of the Sahab Industrial City is now ready and that five new factories have leased buildings to set up installations for new industries.

He said that the new industries are either complementary to the existing ones whose products have been found insufficient for the local markets or new ventures to manufacture products needed by Jordan and other Arab countries.

In July this year, Subeimat was quoted as saying the Sahab Industrial City was being expanded to absorb additional number of factories.

The new factories were being built on 18,000-square-metres of land to be annexed to the main industrial zone, complete with essential services, such as water, electricity and telephones, to encourage industries and investors.

All the premises set up in the first phase within the Sahab Industrial City were occupied earlier this year, and numerous applications were sent to JIEC this summer requesting space to set up new industries.

Glass factory exports rise

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordan Glass Industries Company in southern Jordan is benefiting from the devalued dinar by exporting more of its products to other countries, the company's General Manager Farhi Obeid said in a statement published Saturday.

He said that 20 per cent of the total glass production is being marketed in the Kingdom, but the rest is being sold abroad, bringing in much needed hard currency.

The company is committed to contracts for the sale of all its 1989 production of plain and tinted glass said Obeid.

He noted that the company's glass is sold mainly to Egypt, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Syria, North Yemen, Tunisia, Morocco and Sudan.

The factory produced more than 72,000 tonnes of glass for local markets and exports over the past five years, Obeid noted.

"The company's capital now stands at JD 9 million; up from JD 1 million in 1974 when it was first established, Obeid said.

He said that the glass factory employs 250 people as engineers, technicians and workers all from the local region near Ma'an, as well as experts from Belgium and Poland.



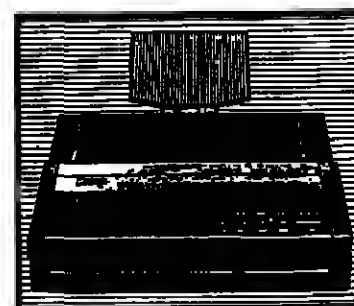
The Society for Care of Neurological Patients
in co-operation with
The Swedish Embassy
is proud to present
The Swedish Baritone Olle Persson, accompanied by Pianist Mats Jansson in a Romantic Recital comprising works by Schubert, Ravel, Stenhammar, Sibelius and others, at the Royal Cultural Centre in Amman Wednesday, Sept. 20, 1989 at 8 p.m. to benefit patients in Jordan suffering from neurological ailments

Tickets available at
The Royal Cultural Centre (JD 4)
Tel. 669026

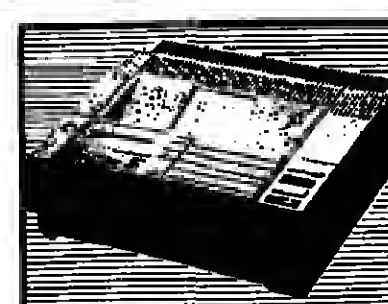
An exhibition on the History of the Monarchy in Sweden with video shows and booklets is on display in the Exhibition Hall of the Royal Cultural Centre until Sunday, Sept. 24. Welcome!

AN ORIGINAL AMONG TODAY'S FACSIMILES

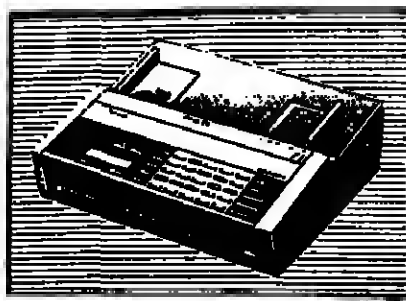
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Sunday's Economic Pulse

Private sector needs to know in time

By Dr. Fahed Faneek

THE PREVIOUS government of Zaid Rifai, last fall decided to ban the importation of about 11 major commodities such as cars, televisions, refrigerators and the like, all of which were considered luxury items. The ban was for a limited period of time and will expire by the end of this year. Therefore, the abolition of the ban does not need more than the passage of time. The decision will cease to be operative as by December 31, 1989.

But this is not sufficient to clarify the position to the private sector. The private sector cannot afford to wait until the end of the year to know whether the restrictions on the import of the above-mentioned goods will be extended, or left to expire automatically. Businessmen have to plan for their businesses ahead of time, they cannot survive on guesswork.

Although the economic re-structuring programme agreed upon with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) was not made public so far, it is common knowledge that the programme is against the imposition of quantitative restrictions or quotas on imports or exports. The IMF accepted, or tolerated, the continued application of the ban until its expiry date, on the understanding that the government will not re-impose quantitative restrictions on imports later on.

By quantitative restrictions, the IMF means the banning of imports of certain commodities on economic and financial basis, or setting a limit or quota for the quantity allowed to be licensed for importation. The objective of this policy is to maintain the market price signals to lead the economic activity, and the protection of the market from distortions. However, this policy does not necessarily imply that the government will not be able to restrict imports by alternative means if it so desired. The most prominent of these alternative means is custom duties, which can be raised on certain commodities to a high level that can reduce demand on these commodities to something close to zero.

Even before the IMF economic programme was formulated, I expressed my reservations against the ban imposed on the importation of the luxury commodities. My argument was that the ban deprived the Treasury from an important source of revenue which is badly needed, and deprived wealthy people from obtaining the commodities they afford to buy at an expensive price, most of which represents taxes paid to the government to enable it to support limited income groups, and to finance subsidies of basic foodstuffs.

I am of course capable of understanding the need of the government for sufficient time to thoroughly study the economic decisions and policies from various angles before formally adopting any of them. However, we hope that such economic decisions and policies will be issued and explained as early as possible, in order for the private sector to adjust itself and plan for the new circumstances in good time.

When it comes to taxes, imports, licenses, and economic laws in general, it is advisable that the government should try to avoid taking businessmen by surprise. Decisions should not be announced at the last moment which renders profit or loss a matter of luck. Otherwise those who know ahead of others will profit at the expense of those who wait for the official announcement.

The current situation on the front of the budget and on the front of the Jordan dinar is comfortable. This allows the government ample time to think policies over at ease, and to issue decisions and policies as packages that complement, not contradict, each other. More important decisions should be made and announced at an early time to allow for planning and adjustment in a healthy manner.

A cause for concern

THE BUSINESS, financial and industrial communities in Jordan will be relieved to know that the Kingdom's arbitration jurisprudence has finally been reviewed and is now set for a comprehensive overhaul. This much-overdue action came in the wake of repeated legal and administrative discoveries of serious deficiencies in the existing arbitration law in dealing with contemporary financial, industrial and business issues. No wonder the existing legal regime in Jordan is so archaic as it was first introduced some 37 years ago when Jordan's concerns and interests in commercial matters were meager and rather simplistic. With the advent of modern methods of work in Jordan, it has become incumbent on the country to amend its legal ways in order to put them on par with the requirements of modern technology and scientific management of business. Modernising legislation in various fields has thus become an ongoing concern in order to make it more receptive to the sophisticated needs of modern Jordan.

What also contributed to the need to revamp the arbitration law is the apparent inability of the Kingdom's court system to cope with the ever growing legal requirements of sophisticated and complex legal issues pertaining to various concerns. This is not to mention that Jordan's court system is so archaic and deficient — having escaped from all attempts to modernise it thus far — that litigants now prefer to settle their legal disputes in contemporary legal settings where areas of expertise have fully developed and adjudication has attained reasonable speed commensurate with the needs of modern life.

But what must still concern Jordanians, who are very appreciative of such bold steps to bring the arbitration law into step with other arbitration laws in various sophisticated legal jurisdictions, is why other equally relevant and pressing calls for modernising other aspects of the legal system have yet to be addressed. Why, for example, the entire court system in Jordan has yet to catch the eye of the authorities and be accorded the attention and priority that it so rightly deserves? One look at a courtroom in Jordan would readily reveal the wanton backwardness of courtroom litigations. By picking and choosing only on arbitration jurisprudence in commercial matters, as distinct from other concerns, the concerned authorities are in effect signalling to all concerned that the legal issues affecting the rich will be liberated from the hopeless legal court system while the mundane legal issues of the poor will forever be left within the orbit of its archaic methods. In other words, by modernising the arbitration jurisprudence and taking it away from ordeals of the ordinary court system, the country would end up having two legal systems: one for the rich, who can afford an arbitration procedure, and one for the poor, who cannot. If that is the end result of selecting arbitration jurisprudence for speedy litigation, then the country has a cause for concern.

JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

JORDANIAN Arabic dailies on Saturday commented on the ACC ministerial council meeting in Baghdad, grouping the prime ministers of Egypt, Jordan, North Yemen and Iraq. Al Rai daily said the meeting will set up a ministerial bureau and its affiliated offices to pave the way for the implementation of resolutions and plans taken by the heads of the four-member Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) last February. The meeting is a first step towards implementing these resolutions which aim to boost cooperation in trade, economic, cultural, informational and sports fields, said the paper. This meeting is simply a serious step towards the execution of well planned programmes in the course of integration among the four countries, the paper added. Putting plans into practice is the sound course to follow so as to present the ACC as a model among Arab countries, and a successful economic grouping aiming to bring benefits to the Arab people, the paper noted. The paper said that the meeting ushers in the beginning of the implementation of ideas, plans and the programmes agreed on among the leaders who are determined to provide the best possible service to their nation.

A columnist in Al Rai daily warns the Arab Nation of the hostile American policy, and says the United States can never be an arbitrator or peace maker in the Middle East, since it is only bent on serving Israel's interests. Fahd Al Rimawi notes that ever since Washington recognised the Jewish state one minute after the proclamation of its independence, it has maintained its hostile policy towards the Arabs and continued to provide the Israeli enemy with all economic and military means to perpetuate Israel's occupation of Palestinian land. The writer says that the latest ploy by the Americans was their so-called U.S.-Palestinian dialogue which has been going on in Tunis for months to no avail. The dialogue was engineered by U.S. politicians who wanted to contain the intifada and absorb its momentum, thus providing an additional service to Israel, the writer points out. He adds that ever since Israel launched the 1967 war on the Arabs, it became clear that the only objective of the United States was to either contain Arab wrath because of Israel's continued occupation of Palestine or provide diplomatic protection to Israel at the United Nations Security Council, shielding Israel from any sanctions. The writer concludes that there can be no point of changing the policies of an enemy bent on bringing destruction of our Arab Nation.

Al Dustour daily commented also on the ACC meetings opening in Baghdad Saturday and said that the four Arab countries are bound to succeed in their endeavours since they are determined to carry out plans and projects benefiting the Arab people. The paper noted that the ministerial council meeting has been a landmark in implementing resolutions taken by the ACC heads of state, and is therefore following the right track in the ongoing process of development and achieving full integration between the four countries. It added that the creation of the ACC is a step towards the economic and political development and to provide a better life for the Arab people in Egypt, Jordan, North Yemen and Iraq. The paper said that the confidence in their joint project and its objectives.

By Rabbi David Forman

RECENTLY on the oped pages of the Jerusalem Post two separate articles appeared, written by two distinguished public figures: Joshua Shofman of the Association for Civil Rights in Israel and Ze'ev Falk, emeritus professor of law of the Hebrew University.

Both articles dealt with the issue of human rights violations in the territories. Their theses are well argued, fully couched in legalistic terminology. Yet the bottom line leads to a conclusion that seems quite skewed to those of us with less of a background in lawyerly matters. This bottom line: if the other guy commits a wrong, then justice is on our side in perpetuating the same crime. In other words: "Do unto others as they would do unto you."

I am not totally certain, but this legal approach tends not only to violate all the rules of sound syllogistic reasoning, but also suspends any moral consideration of the issues at hand, thereby absolving Jews of concern for ethical standards in their implications for our own behaviour.

What is particularly problematic with the argument that both these legal minds grapple with is that it reminds one that it is all too easy to build sound legal systems that abuse democratic principles. Indeed, we already have instances of this, when a few months ago, Israel's chief of staff suggested sidestepping the High Court regarding the expulsion of Arabs from the West Bank. As it is, West Bank homes are demolished almost at will before there is any opportunity for legal recourse.

But it is not my purpose here to argue the legal side of the issue. Rather, what concerns me is that both writers seem to lead support to a most disturbing (I dare say un-Jewish) development in this country — human rights indifference is giving way to justification of human rights violations. Let's make no mistake about this. A week ago two people were reported killed and 35 wounded in the territories. The report appeared on the last page of this paper. In the Hebrew language, papers, it was tucked away in the middle of the paper. In the two religious papers, it was not mentioned. Just the other day, five people were killed and scores wounded in one of the worst days of violence since the onset of the intifada. *Mabat* failed to include this in its nightly news report. Nahli, a city of 500,000 people, had been under curfew for close to a week, but this information couldn't seem to find its way into the news, let alone into the public consciousness.

And here come two scholarly pieces that take this indifference one step further, holding that if the other side carries out human rights violations, then it deserves what's coming to it, and no one can point an accusing finger at us, particularly at Jews who reside in Israel. The argument: what the Israeli army has done in the West Bank is nothing compared to the Syrian onslaught in Lebanon. Or: "Look at the brutal murders of so-called collaborators by Palestinians."

Are we to understand that we Jews, who have educated the world to believe that our Zionist venture would embrace prophetic Jewish values of social justice and equal rights, would now turn to the lowest common denominator to justify indecent behaviour and exculpate our leaders of such behaviour? While rejecting invidious parallels between Israel and oppressive countries, employing such unseemly comparative yardsticks to measure our actions only invites offensive comparisons. I as a Jew would hate to think that there is something to these comparisons.

Also bandying about the term "Israeli liberal democracy" rings a little hollow today. Moshe Levinger still roams free, while an Arab who might be arraigned for a similar crime would be sitting in administrative detention until the trial. Graffiti on walls leading to Arab villages calling for "death to the Arabs" has never invited the Border Police to get Jews out of their homes in their adjacent settlements in the middle of the night to whitewash the anti-Arab (really anti-Jewish) slogans. When was a Jewish settlement placed under curfew when its members attacked a neighbouring Arab village? Are we to expect that the guardians of law would legitimise a new concept — "half-democracy"?

Do Arab violations of Jewish human rights disturb me? Most definitely. Does the bloodletting in Lebanon cause me agony? Most certainly. But let's be painfully honest. What saddens me more, the death of a Jew or an Arab? Uncomfortably, I admit it — the death of a Jew. Under any and all circumstances? No. But, by the same token, what pains me more — the brutality that Jews commit or the offences carried out by others? Undoubtedly, those of my own people.

For herein lies the issue that we confront. We cannot guarantee the moral standards of others, but we must always maintain the integrity of our own people. Our human rights record has been rightfully attacked for some time now, not — as suggested by Prof. Falk — because Palestinians rejected a two-state solution in 1947, not because of the lack of a prior claim to a state during Jordanian rule in the West Bank, and most certainly not because Palestinians throw stones and kill collaborators. But rather because we have committed intolerable acts in the name of the Jewish people.

Hiding behind other people's human rights violations will not protect us against moral deterioration. To do so only threatens the very fabric of a democratic state. The symbol of Israel as a "light unto the nations" must instruct us to behave in ways differently than other nations and peoples. Our own suffering as a people should obviate any claim on our part to act inhumanely toward others. We of all people should know that human rights is not a subject for legalistic jargon, but rather a value that safeguards the moral integrity of a Jewish state — Jerusalem Post.

Defence officials said these Palestinians, classified by the army as "terrorists," are buried in a Jordan Valley site. It is out of bounds to relatives and friends to prevent political funerals and pilgrimages to graves of people described by Arabs as martyrs. An Israeli lawyer for the families of two Palestinian activists shot dead in an army raid in the West Bank town of Nablus a week ago said she had petitioned Israel's supreme court to have the bodies exhumed from the graveyard near Jericho.

Double standards on human rights

Israel attacks Palestinian vineyards

UNDERLINING their frustration at the failure of conventional force to quell the intifada, Israeli troops and settlers in the occupied territories have turned to the systematic poisoning of Palestinian crops.

The first such attack occurred in early July near Hebron, and involved ten dunams (10,000 square metres) of vines owned by Hafez Tahboub of Jerusalem. Dozens of dunams — each producing between 1.5 tons and 3 tons of grapes — were later attacked in two nearby locations.

The clearest evidence implicating the Israelis has come in testimony from Imad Abdul Hadi Daudh, from Halhoul. He told the Jerusalem-based Sanabel Press Service that on the evening of July 8 he saw several soldiers pass his house and move towards his nearby vineyard. The following morning, when his mother went out to water the vines, she noticed that some of them had withered. At first, she attributed

this to the heat, but over the following few days the plants began to dry out and the grapes shrunk.

Mr. Daudh told Sanabel that he believed the damage to have been caused by a poison spray, as only the exposed parts of the plants were affected. Only the plants adjoining the tracks left by the Israeli patrol had withered while those further afield were healthy. Also consistent with spraying was the fact that the damage occurred at a uniform height. Mr. Daudh also noted that part of an apricot tree at the same height had also been damaged, strengthening his suspicions that the affliction was not a vine disease.

Evidence of settler involvement came in late July when Israeli police arrested eight members of an extremist underground group linked with the openly racist Kach movement and calling itself "The State of Judea."

Amongst the literature in their possession were leaflets urging settlers to destroy Palestinian crops and telling local farmers that their vines had been poisoned in retaliation for the intifada.

According to Fawzi Al Qaisi, head of the Agriculture Department in Hebron, laboratory checks for four known types of chemical poisons had all produced negative results, and further tests would be needed before treatment could be considered.

The Palestinian farmers affected stand to lose \$300-750 per dunam of grapes lost. However, they are more concerned about potential long-term damage to the vines themselves, which take years to mature, and there is also anxiety about the possible health hazards. Although animals spruce the affected foliage, farmers are worried that children playing in the fields might be poisoned — CAABU bulletin.

Graves without names

By Jonathan Karp
Reuter

GADOT, Palestine — On a rocky hillside in northern Israel beside a nature trail trampled by thousands of hikers lies a tiny graveyard without names.

In a country which reveres its fallen soldiers, this is a military cemetery of the "reviled" — a graveyard of Arab fighters killed by the Israeli army.

"Every terrorist" who is killed in southern Lebanon and along Israel's borders is buried there, a military source told Reuters, referring to the cemetery named after the nearby Israeli collective farm of Gadot.

The 1,500-square-metre plot lies near the Jordan River opposite the Israeli-annexed Golan Heights. Abandoned Israeli and Syrian bunkers and the sound of Israeli tanks firing training rounds over the ridge serve as a reminder that this was a place of war.

The 224 numbered wooden plaques testify to scores of resistance attacks on Israel.

Major-General Yossi Peled, army commander for the north, said on Sunday that Israeli troops had killed 70 fighters along the Lebanese border this year. Four died in the last fortnight in a wave of clashes along the Lebanese and Jordanian borders.

The cemetery at Gadot was set up after a 1956 army decision to build special graveyards for Israel's foes. Rabbi Shlomo Goren who made the proposal, said he was following a humanitarian example set by the Jews' biblical ancestors.

"King David's chief of staff, Yoav, organised the burial of enemy casualties. This was appreciated by non-Jewish states and seen as a great achievement," Goren, the first chief rabbi of the Israeli army, told Reuters.

"We have to pay tribute even to the enemy. After they are

killed, they are no longer the enemy," he said. "I did this because our ancestors did it. That was enough for me."

But at least one of the cemeteries created to respect "even the enemy" has become the burial site for some of the Palestinians from the occupied territories killed in the 21-month uprising against Israeli occupation.

Defence officials said these Palestinians, classified by the army as "terrorists," are buried in a Jordan Valley site. It is out of bounds to relatives and friends to prevent political funerals and pilgrimages to graves of people described by Arabs as martyrs.

An Israeli lawyer for the families of two Palestinian activists shot dead in an army raid in the West Bank town of Nablus a week ago said she had petitioned Israel's supreme court to have the bodies exhumed from the graveyard near Jericho.

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NGOs reiterate solidarity with Palestinians

By Mariam M. Shahin
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — As the intifada in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip was about to enter its 21st month, as the Israeli occupation army was about to claim its 700th plus Palestinian life, main their 67,000th plus Palestinian victim and blow up their 950th plus Palestinian house, the United Nations Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), were meeting in Vienna to discuss the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people.

The first of the two scheduled meetings was the Third European Regional NGO Symposium organised by the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People. The Aug. 28-29 symposium was attended by representatives of more than 100 Palestinian, Israeli and European international non-governmental organisations.

Several workshops were conducted during the symposium. Subjects discussed ranged from economic cooperation between Europe and the occupied territories, health conditions among Palestinians living under occupation to educational difficulties faced by the Palestinian community living under occupation.

In a workshop which dealt with Palestinian trade with Europe it was concluded that appropriate action should be taken to challenge the monopoly import franchise that exist between European companies and Israeli firms, which deny importers in the occupied territories the option to import the same products directly. All initiatives suggested at the workshop would require financial input from NGOs.

Another workshop, in which Palestinian-European parliamentary relations were discussed, participants suggested that more NGO media attention should be given to the Palestinian issue in order to get a personification of the Palestine question. It was added that more NGO lobbying could get the European Community (EC) to increase diploma-

tic lobbying to force Israel to lift its closure order on Palestinian schools in the occupied territories.

Following the meeting, another conference, the Sixth U.N. International NGO meeting on the Question of Palestine, took place at the Austria Centre in Vienna from Aug. 30 to Sept. 1.

Concluding the meeting, NGO

participants reiterated condemnations of acts of violence and injustices against the Palestinian people. The recognition of the declaration of the independent State of Palestine was also reiterated and calls were endorsed for a "wide, effective and comprehensive U.N. involvement" for Palestinian health and socio-economic fields, independent of

Israeli control.

While noting some changes in U.S. attitude towards Israel, the final declaration of the NGOs said that the changes were inadequate and said the continued American support of the Israeli government was considered unhelpful for the achievement of progress and peace.

The need to increase NGO

effectiveness in providing self-generated aid to the Palestinians in the occupied territories was expressed.

As more Palestinians fell prey to Israel's occupation policies, the NGOs meeting closed on a hopeful note, expressing continued solidarity with those suffering from the 41-year-old conflict.

'Tents and Stones in Vienna'

AS THE Israeli occupation of Palestinian Arab land enters its 41st and 22nd year respectively, the United Nations held its sixth non-governmental meeting on the question of Palestine in Vienna, Austria from August 30-September 1, 1989.

To mark the occasion and the United Nations first symposium dealing specifically with the intifada in a session entitled "Intifada: The Continuing Struggle of the Palestinian People for Independence," Palestinian artist Samia Zaru illustrated life of Palestinians under the refugee tent and on the streets in the intifada with her exhibit entitled "Tents and Stones."

The exhibit coincided with two meetings taking place at the Austria Centre, one was the Third United Nations European Regional NGO Symposium on the Question of Palestine, from Aug. 28-29. The other was the Sixth United Nations International NGO meeting on the Question of Palestine and immediately followed the European meeting, from Aug. 30 to Sept. 1. Complimenting the theme of the U.N. sessions, Zaru's "art happening" was exhibited at the Austria Centre. Zaru was only able to display excerpts of the full presentation of the "Tents and Stones" exhibit which was held in Amman on the commemoration of the June 1967 war this year.

Zaru, an artist, who left her home in the occupied West Bank to join her exiled husband, former mayor of Ramallah Nadeem Zaru, has been living in Amman since 1969. Her art pieces have been characterised by the use of multi-dimensional compositions. Zaru "actualises" the intifada through the use of multi-dimensional art pieces sculptured into an exhibit. Appropriate for an international forum, Zaru said, "the exhibit is meant to stir questions, to get people to ask why tents and why stones?" The exhibit, she says, was also meant as "an invitation for a dialogue and involvement."

'Real' material

In her "art happening" as Zaru has called it, old tent material is used as a canvas for her paintings which depict the sorrow and violence of the occupation. Materials from real life, such as a soldier's boots, tyres, barrels, children's shoes, life-size blood-stained dolls. And, of course, stones are some of the artifacts that characterise the tents and stones exhibit.

The artifacts are used in a complimentary fashion with the larger-than-life sized paintings depicted on the old tent canvas. A doll hangs lifelessly out of a torn-up canvas representing the martyrdom of chil-

dren in the intifada. Scenes of men, women and children carrying stones and waving victory signs against the background of their camps, villages and towns, dominate several canvases at the bottom of which Zaru has placed stones, soldiers' boots or the blood-stained shoe of a child.

Zaru hung 13 of her canvases on the ceiling of the exhibit hall at the Austria Centre. "We used Austrian stones, which unlike our stones, are more rounded, but those helping me collect stones were very much involved in the spirit of the exhibit. We also had some difficulty in retrieving an old tyre to use in the exhibit, in Vienna they don't have a lot of burnt out tyres lying around."

In contrast to the brightly coloured tent canvas paintings are depictions of Israeli soldiers painted on transparent plastic material.

Neither the paintings on the transparent material nor the life size refugee tent were accommodated at the Austria Centre exhibit hall, so Zaru displayed them at the Republican Club nearby, which was used by U.N. staff and the conferences over 100 participants. "Every time the conferences participants met outside the U.N. buildings to have lunch or dinner, they had this huge refugee tent sitting in their midst. I hung the transparent paintings between the two meeting rooms, almost as a

curtain division, so that whenever someone went from one room to the next they would have to look at the "invisible Israeli soldier," Zaru recalls.

Art dialogue

The dialogue that the exhibit provoked, according to Zaru, is "among art elements in the art works in order to start another dialogue between the art concept and the viewer."

A cause as dimensional as that of the Palestinians, Zaru felt the needed dimensional art work. "The use of different methods and materials was not for style but for creating space inside out and for the expression of time and memory. The method sustained itself by revealing the whole concept which is a revolution against traditional art procedures and the unique situation of the Palestinians," Zaru said.

While many who have not had a firsthand encounter with life under occupation in Palestine often sceptically question the realism of such powerful art works, one visitor at the Austria Centre, who had served in occupied Jerusalem for 15 years as a U.N. official, said after seeing Zaru exhibit, "I have seen these scenes before, I lived in Palestine."

M.S.

as we have seen in her stories. They show that woman's love of man is mixed with a great deal of scepticism regarding his intentions and capabilities to do good. Man's shortcomings are evident in the imperfections of the state:

The Swedish Institute

Selma Lagerlöf — The Swedish author of redeeming love

STOCKHOLM — "She is specifically Swedish and undeniably universal," wrote Paul Valéry of Selma Lagerlöf, an opinion which cannot be refuted but can possibly be supplemented. She is certainly universal; early she gained an international audience; so far her works have been translated into some forty languages, and new editions are continuously being published. She is Swedish, Nordic and provincial; at one and the same time she is naive and sophisticated, an avianism which appears to maintain its validity and its interest. She has sometimes been the subject of a veritable cult but seldom of analysis; she has seldom been the centre of literary debate, but neither has she faded from Europe's consciousness as so many other authors from the fertile nineteenth century. She is unique in her blend of simplicity and subtlety, in her magical ability to carry away new readers.

Selma Lagerlöf is Swedish but also specifically Nordic. That means she belongs to an epic tradition originating in the Old Norse (Icelandic) saga, the best narrative prose of the Middle Ages, which in a singular way unites refined narrative technique, subtle interwoven homilies and simplicity, which is accessible to all. It is a prose which feels ever fresh and new, a source of inspiration for Selma Lagerlöf, Sigrid Undset and Halldor Laxness — to mention only a few.

With such traditions the Scandinavian storytellers have never seriously been able to make the narrative problematic or experience a "crisis of the novel." New storytellers from the working class, especially in Sweden and Finland, have found their material to be more important than the techniques: to them traditional prose has not been seen as spent. The "crisis of the novel" is perhaps a social phenomenon, a problem for an academic and bourgeois literature in Central Europe. To Scandinavian belles lettres, with a broader social recruitment of authors, the problem has not been felt to be as compelling. The same can be said for the reading public, traditional in outlook, rarely interested in the findings of the avant-garde.

Selma Lagerlöf is not only Swedish and Nordic but also provincial, and therein lies one explanation of her strength. Literary regeneration appears often to come from the periphery of the "cultural empire," i.e., from Iceland, Ireland, Latin America. Her home province of Varmland was one such outpost, distant and isolated from Europe's cultural centres. The thin layer of upper-class — landed gentry, foundry proprietors, clergy — had to re-

sort to their own talents: to play a quartet by Haydn, to present a dramatic tableau, to improvise verse, to read aloud from Walter Scott, Dickens, Dumas, Carlyle's historical works, and above all to tell stories. The art of storytelling was kept alive in the small manor houses, not much larger than cottages. Landowners were conscious of their rank and their responsibility to culture, but socially and economically they were close to the farmers, and the traditions and legends of the masses penetrated their drawing rooms. The epic and folkloric tradition was carried on by women; this was the state of affairs particularly at Marbacka, Selma Lagerlöf's childhood home.

The small manor house was a matriarchate, which long had been inherited on the distaff side. Selma's father was a weak patriarch, a poor manager, ultimately given to alcohol and embittered with life. It was the task of the women to keep this patriarch in a good mood, to love this man who was not worthy of love, a common theme in the fully developed writer. Apparently the image of Selma's father was what determined her view of the male sex, as did stories she heard as a child about the officers discharged after the Napoleonic wars, who had gone broke but

lingered on as "cavaliers" (a euphemism for "spongers") on Varmland's manors and foundry estates. It is striking how often the men in Selma Lagerlöf's stories are unfit for life, perpetrators of an outrage or a crime, drunkards, madmen, burdens to the family and to society. Only through the love of a woman could they be redeemed and integrated into the community.

Literary research concentrating on the genesis of Selma Lagerlöf's fiction can find the origin of these supernatural beings in Swedish folklore, but in doing so it is nevertheless unable to explain the artistic force of her work in totally different environments (nations) and in modern times. Neither can it explain the strange phenomenon that a work of fiction can have universal appeal — even though its roots are in the provincial. There are traits in Selma Lagerlöf's mythology that point to German Expressionism; this may partly explain the success she had in Germany after World War I. And one realises that some of her books ought to have been filmed by German masters, such as Murnau and Fritz Lang, in order to be shown to advantage. The Swedish films based on her books turned out to be like decorative picture books, often with considerable visual effect; but they lacked something

of the natural magic we perceive in her best stories.

We may find her doctrine of love exalted and too demanding — Robert Musil has spoken of a kind of heroism in it — but one has to admit that it was well considered, and that she clearly envisaged the obstacles love had to meet in a harsh world.

In 1912 she surprised her readers with a socially oriented story, *Thy Soul Shall Bear Witness*, which deals with an ordinary wretch of a drunkard who torments his wife. The subject would seem to demand social realism, but as so often she fills her book with a mythology which throws the reader between the real and the spiritual world. In terms of technique, it presented enormous difficulties which she surmounted with an intricate system of "indirect" narration — thoroughly refuting all notions of her lack of narrative sophistication. Indeed she was very much aware of her artistry, even though she found it difficult or inappropriate to speak of her art and its technique. When asked to comment on current issues, she did so reluctantly in a discursive form; she rather preferred to answer with a story which in itself contained the answer to the question. Her mode of storytelling is a form of expression we know from older cultures and which still may be found in Oriental societies. We should recognise the technique in the Gospel where Jesus again and again explains his teaching by telling a parable: "A sower went out to sow..."

Man's shortcomings

Selma Lagerlöf was at one and the same time stavistic and modern. She was very familiar with liberal theology; it is hardly likely that she was a Christian in the sense that she believed in the divinity of Christ. Still she was in a remarkable way contemporary with the philosophy of the Gospels, their world of ideas and their linguistic rendition. That is why she could model her *Christ Legends* so confidently, without irony or sentimental distance. The miracles she retold especially from the Apocrypha, are in a style resembling the tales she could remember from her home at Marbacka.

However, there were occasions when she could speak in plain language, particularly for instance on the issue of women's right to vote. She considered the home to be the creation of woman, the state that of man. And the home was a fine institution, as long as the husband stood loyally by the side of the woman. This was frequently not the case,



Bertil Lybeck's illustration (from 1931) of Lagerlöf's "The Wonderful Adventures of Nils"



Twins or kin? Amy and Elizabeth Wright are twins with an age difference of 18 months

The law and the embryo

By Aileen Ballantyne

THE RIGHTS and wrongs of scientific research on human embryos will shortly be removed from cool analysis in the laboratory to the emotive and prejudiced floor of the House of Commons.

Like lay juries bewildered by five-year fraud cases, MPs will attempt to define when human life and human rights begin, without being able to define the beginning of life itself.

Scientists define life as being continuous: sperm is alive, the egg is alive and the combination of dividing cells is alive — though incapable of life outside the womb. But if the egg is fertilised in a test-tube does this mean that life has begun? The decision will be up to MPs.

In a bill expected in the Queen's speech in November, they will be given an unwelcome free vote between two straight options: that all research on embryos, including research within the present limitation of 14 days, should become a criminal offence; or that research should be permitted within the present time-limit if it is licensed by a new statutory authority.

To some, the word embryo may suggest the thumb-sucking foetus. In fact what is being discussed is a cluster of cells considerably smaller than the full stop at the end of this sentence.

In an attempt to take some of the heat out of the debate and allow fuller discussion on expected amendments, the bill is to be introduced first in the House of Lords. It proposes to give all children over 18 the right to find out whether they were born following egg or sperm donation and the right of access to non-identifying information about the donor; to clarify the question of ownership of frozen embryos (if one or both parents die or divorce); and to make it clear that any contract drawn up for a surrogate birth will be unenforceable.

The government is also understood to be under pressure from Pro-Life MPs to include a clause to reduce the upper time limit for abortion from 28 weeks to as low as 18 in the bill. Abortion is not the only side-issue likely to be raised. The government has made it clear in a white paper that any attempts at cloning identical human beings, sustaining an embryo beyond 14 days in a laboratory or

the creation of trans-species hybrid creatures will be banned by the new authority.

But the fact that many of the potential abuses of embryo research dreamed up by science fiction writers are to be outlawed is unlikely to prevent such specious clouding the main issues. Professor Robert Edwards, the test-tube baby pioneer, argues: "Most MPs have as their source of ethics Dr. Strangelove, Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde, or Brave New World."

Scientists desire clarification of their position. A statutory licensing authority, as recommended by Warnock back in 1984, is long overdue. The danger is that the Commons debate will simply polarise prejudices rather than grasp the crux of the decision — laying down a fair and enforceable framework for the advancement of science.

The government has now delayed so long that the Voluntary Licensing Authority, the watchdog organisation of lay people, church representatives, lawyers and doctors who license centres for in vitro fertilisation, has changed its name to the Interim Licensing Authority in protest. — The Guardian.

INDIAN TRADE EXHIBITION

AT INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION HALL, MARJ AL-HAMAM

SEPTEMBER 14-22, 1989

TIMINGS: 10.00 hrs. — 13.00 hrs. (For Business Visitors)
16.00 hrs. — 20.00 hrs. (For General Public)

DISPLAY PROFILE

Engineering goods including automobile spare parts, agricultural implements, telecommunication systems, consultancy services, office equipment, earth moving equipment, cinema projectors, machine tools, hand tools, builders hardware, cosmetics and other consumer goods.

PARTICIPATION PROFILE

Leading Indian companies engaged in the manufacture of a broad product range.

BUSINESS SYMPOSIA

- Seminar on Jordan-India Trade & Economic Co-operation on September 14, 1989 at 4.00 p.m.
- Symposium on Telecommunication Technology on September 16, 1989 at 10 a.m. at EXHIBITION HALL

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ORGANISED BY TRADE FAIR AUTHORITY OF INDIA

India hammers Morocco over phosphates

CASABLANCA (R) — A row between Morocco, the world's largest exporter of phosphates, and its most important customer India has jeopardised the Moroccan economy just when it appeared to be improving.

Economic analysts estimate the dispute could cost Morocco \$400-\$600 million and result in a current account deficit in 1989 after two successive years of small surpluses — the first in more than a decade.

"It is a tragedy and that the most serious problem to hit the economy for many years. After two good years, a third could have seen them really moving ahead. Now they will be lucky to stand still," said one Western analyst.

"When set against a 1988 current account surplus of \$21 million you see how important this row is and what bad news (it is)

for the economy," another analyst commented.

India, angered by an attempt to charge above the world price, has not bought any phosphoric acid or phosphates from Morocco since the start of this year.

In 1988, India was by far the biggest purchaser of Moroccan phosphoric acid. An increase of almost 50 per cent in sales of all forms of phosphate was the main factor in Morocco improving its export performance and slashing,

its chronically high trade deficit by 20 per cent.

Most phosphate is used to manufacture fertilisers.

"I do not think we are talking about rescheduling (foreign debt), but they could have difficulty making some repayments and any hope of continuing to rebuild foreign currency reserves have gone out of the window," the Western analyst said.

Moroccan phosphate exports rose last year by more than 40 per cent to 11.1 billion dirhams (\$1.3 billion) against 7.6 billion dirhams (\$900 million) in 1987.

India was responsible for more than half Morocco's earnings from phosphoric acid in 1988 and more than a quarter of income from total phosphate exports, paying about \$440 million into Morocco's coffers.

On Sept. 13, Morocco accused India of trying to bully the state-run phosphate company into charging a lower price and said it had taken the matter before the disputes committee of the Interna-

tional Chamber of Commerce in Geneva.

In an editorial in the semi-official *Le Matin Du Sahara*, minister without portfolio Ahmad Alaoui said India's action had wrecked production plans.

The row has played into the hands of leftwing critics of the government's economic policy who have argued for years that a lack of investment has left Morocco dangerously dependent on external factors such as phosphate sales and tourism.

Trade union sources say Morocco's giant phosphate mines are down to 40 per cent output while plants built specially to transform rock into acid are reported to be operating at only 10 per cent capacity.

Morocco has about 110 billion tonnes of untapped reserves — about two thirds of the estimated world stock — and shares second

place in the world production table with the Soviet Union, behind the United States.

At the centre of the dispute stands the phosphate group's director general Karim Lamrani — a former-prime minister who has ruled the company since 1967.

According to well-informed sources Lamrani negotiates a contract with India for the sale of half a million tonnes of acid at a price of \$470 a tonne — about \$30 above the price charged by other exporters.

The Indians signed, but later stalled on the small print of the contract such as when deliveries should take place.

Eventually, an impatient Lamrani cancelled the contract, confident India would find others unable to meet all its needs and return to the bargaining table.

U.S. trade shows improvement

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. foreign trade deficit narrowed to \$7.58 billion in July, its lowest level in nearly five years, the government said Friday. But some analysts fear the improvement will be temporary if the dollar continues to rise against other currencies.

The Commerce Department said the July deficit dropped 5.3 per cent from a revised June imbalance of \$8.01 billion. The July gap was the slimmest since a \$6.79 billion imbalance in December 1984.

Analysts pointed to the export category in the report, particularly capital goods, as the main reason for the deficit improvement. While exports dropped 1.8 per cent, they still totalled a strong \$30.74 billion, the fifth straight month that exports have remained above \$30 billion.

Capital goods exports rose \$300 million while capital goods imports fell \$300 million.

"That is exactly the type of thing we need to see," said Howard Lewis, vice president for international economics at the

National Association of Manufacturers. "We don't have a prayer of solving our trade problems if we don't have a big turnaround in our capital goods balance."

Overall, imports fell 2.5 per cent \$38.82 billion, their lowest level since February, due in part to a big turnaround in our capital goods balance.

Overall, imports fell 2.5 per cent to \$38.82 billion, their lowest level since February, due in part to an unexpectedly small rise in oil imports. The trade deficit is the difference between imports and exports.

Many economists had been looking for a deficit of \$8.5 billion to \$9 billion because of increasing oil imports and the rising value of the dollar, which cuts into exports by making them more expensive overseas.

Allen Sinai, chief economist for the Boston Co. financial firm, said the export volume reflects booming economies overseas but cautioned that "the going will get tougher as we move to the end of the year and into the next."

The reason, he said, is that "by

late in the year, the higher dollar will be denting exports" and "the booming economies overseas will probably slow down."

But Michael Evans of Evans Economies Inc., a Washington consulting firm, questioned the impact of the higher dollar.

It used to be that when the dollar rose, domestic manufacturers threw in the towel, saying they couldn't compete at those prices," he said. "Now a lot of our clients are deciding to stick it out. They realise their profit margins will be temporarily slashed, but they're determined to retain their foothold in the foreign market and ride this thing out."

Oil imports rose 2.9 per cent to \$4.32 billion in July. The amount rose to 8.14 million barrels a day from 7.93 million in June, but the price per barrel fell to \$17.12 from \$17.67 in June.

Analysts say oil imports will continue to rise as U.S. consumption increases and domestic production falls, becoming a major factor in producing a widening deficit in coming months.

The American Petroleum Institute, an industry group, reported imported oil in July accounted for more than half of monthly U.S. petroleum needs, the first time that has occurred in 12 years.

The decrease in the July deficit represented the first back-to-back declines since mid-1988, when the

imbalances dropped in March, April and May.

Undersecretary of Commerce Michael Darby said the deficit has dropped 10.3 per cent in the first seven months of the year, including a 15.1 per cent increase in exports and an 8.4 per cent increase in imports compared to the same period of 1988.

For the first seven months of 1989, the trade deficit was running at an annual rate of \$105.8 billion down 10.7 per cent from last year's total deficit of \$118.5 billion.

The largest deficit in July continued to be with Japan, an imbalance of \$4.04 billion, up from a June deficit of \$3.94 billion. Next was Taiwan, which totalled \$1.26 billion in June, while the deficit with China was \$510 million.

Meanwhile, President George Bush, in less than eight months in office, has chosen more women for top jobs than any previous president in a full year.

Chase Untermeyer, White House personnel chief, said Bush recently eclipsed Jimmy Carter's old record of 72 women appointees in 1980 with his 73rd presidential appointment, and has already raised that mark to 77.

"We're not stopping there. We're going to name more and more," Untermeyer said in a lecture at the Heritage Foundation think tank.

Washing powder prices revised

AMMAN (Petra) — The prices of locally produced washing powder has been reset effective Sunday, according to an order issued by Minister of Supply Ibrahim Ayyoub.

The new prices will be as such:

Kind of package/labels	Weight	Price
1. Surf (carton)	200 grams	0.170
2. Surf (carton)	400 grams	0.320
3. Shine or any other brand	200 grams	0.160
4. Shine or any other brand	400 grams	0.300
5. Persil and Dixon (plastic bucket)	3 kg	3.400
6. Kleen or any other brand (plastic bag)	25 kg	19.000

The decision committed the manufacturers to clearly label their products and abide by the standards and specifications set by the Ministry of Industry and Trade.

THE BETTER HALF. By Harris

"We live in a sick society...so why not make a buck from it?"

JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME By Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

YUINF

KWATE

THROOC

SNIDUM

Out of the way, you little pig-squeak!

THINK BEFORE YOU SPEAK, THEN---

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumble: TRULY SWOON BEHALF INLAND
Answer: What many dry speeches are—ALL WEI

Weekly Amman Financial Market trading

AMMAN (I.T.) — The following table summarises trading activities at the Amman Financial Market starting Saturday Sept. 9, '89 and ending Wednesday Sept. 13, '89. (Figures in Jordanian dinars).

Name of company	Number of shares	Volume of trade	Opening price	Closing price	Par value
Banking and financial institutions					
Industrial Development Bank	50	82	1,640	1,630	1,000
Jordan Islamic Bank	3352	7824	2,350	2,350	1,000
Jordan Kuwait Bank	12515	12518	1,350	1,400	1,000
Housing Bank	6147	11392	1,830	1,860	1,000
Arab Jordan Investment Bank	5180	12317	2,300	2,350	1,000
Cairo Amman Bank	1000	27550	39,000	27,550	5,000
Bank of Jordan	3898	55918	14,700	14,600	5,000
Arab Bank	3810	730933	194,000	193,750	10,000
Jordan National Bank	30773	77646	2,550	2,520	1,000
Jordan Finance House for Development	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Investment and Finance Bank	13075	39087	2,770	3,050	1,000
Finance and Credit Corporation	—	—	—	—	1,000
National Financial Investments	10281	25499	2,300	2,560	1,000
National Portfolio Securities	85197	135436	1,550	1,580	1,000
Arab Finance Corporation (Jordan)	28099	68550	2,400	2,520	1,000
Real Estate Financing Corporation	—	—	—	—	1,000
Beit Al Mal Saving & Investment for Housing	—	—	—	—	1,000
Insurance and reinsurance					
Middle East Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan French Insurance	144683	290922	2,110	1,880	1,000
RESCO Life Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Insurance	23302	67128	2,880	2,860	1,000
Arab Life and Accident Insurance	3050	3584	1,170	1,180	1,000
Yarmouk Insurance and Reinsurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Holy Land Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Philadelphia Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Arab Union International Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jerusalem Insurance	770	1277	1,710	1,600	1,000
Jordan Gulf Insurance	10539	15186	1,420	1,560	1,000
General Arabia Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
National Ahliya Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Arab Belgian Insurance and Reinsurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
United Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Services and industries					
General Investments	—	—	—	—	1,000
Imma for Investment and Financial Facilities	—	—	—	—	1,000
Darco for Housing and Investment	25293	26044	1,040	1,010	1,000
Real Estate Investment (Aqaro)	11050	6874	0,630	0,620	1,000
Jordan Gulf Real Estate Investment	56401	20089	0,350	0,350	1,000
Jordan Leasing Corporation	—	—	—	—	1,000
Petra Enterprises and Leasing Equipments	35449	5976	0,660	0,670	1,000
Equipment Leasing & Maintenance/Tajero	300	102	0,860	0,840	1,000
International Contracting & Investment	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordanian Electric Power	2762	3984	1,450	1,420	1,000
Irbid District Electricity	—	—	—	—	1,000
Arab International Hotels	163830	265571	1,690	1,640	1,000
Hotels and Tourism	—	—	—	—	1,000
United Middle East and Commodore Hotels	—	—	—	—	1,000
Garage Owners Federation Office	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan National Shipping Lines	225700	370345	1,590	1,640	1,000
Jordan Press Foundation	3363	9753	3,000	2,900	1,000
Jordan Press and Publishing	—	—	—	—	1,000
Dar Al Shaab Press, Printing and Publishing	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Dairy	27570	30228	1,080	1,100	1,000
Arab Pharmaceutical Manufacturing	82477	398034	4,740	4,780	1,000
Intermediate Petrochemical Industries	97925	242043	2,540	2,480	1,000
Jordan Phosphate Mines	20350	87353	4,400	4,460	1,000
Hotels and Commercial and Agricultural (Inta)	49656	80351	1,580	1,630	1,000
Arab Chemical Detergent Industries	600	3180	5,300	5,300	1,000
Jordan Kuwait for Agricultural Products	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Sweets and Chocolate Manufacturing	—	—	—	—	1,000
Aladdin Industries	500	1225	2,520	2,450	1,000
Arab Aluminium Manufacturing	16820	35620	2,140	2,110	1,000
Jordan Worst Mills	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Ceramics	10074	25690	2,490	2,550	1,000
Chemical Industries	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Industries and Match (JIMCO)	89500	126336	1,490	1,580	1,000
Dar Al Daw' for Development and Investment	28675	100442	3,100	3,480	1,000
National Cable & Wire Manufacturing	4796	11073	2,200	2,290	1,000
Universal Chemical Industries	59425	28843	3,500	3,420	1,000
General Mining	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Petroleum Refinery	8098	64635	7,980	8,000	1,000
Jordan Lime & Brick	8500	1026	0,130	0,120	1,000
National Industries	—	—	—	—	1,000
Arab Paper Converting and Trading	—	—	—	—	1,000
Arab Investment and International Trade	48729	24674	0,530	0,510	1,000
Jordan Wooden Industries (JWICO)	15375	44796	2,900	2,930	1,000
Livestock and Poultry	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Pipe Manufacturing	40300	101524	2,590	2,550	1,000
Rafia Industrial for Plastic Bags	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Paper and Cardboard	100	560	5,820	5,600	1,000
Jordan Rockwool Industries	531410	832814	1,510	1,600	1,000
Trans-Jordan Minerals Research	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Himeh Mineral	—	—	—	—	1,000
Orient Dry Batteries Factory	—	—	—	—	1,000
Woolen Industries	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Tanning	1714	3394	2,000	1,980	5,000
Jordan Printing and Packaging	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Tobacco and Cigarette	—	—	—	—	1,000
Mas Industries	342100	730086	2,270	2,190	1,000
Arab Center for Pharmaceuticals & Chemicals	197640	563498	2,850	2,900	1,000
National Cable & Wire Manufacturing	197640	563498	1,990	2,080	1,000
Jordan Spinning & Weaving	306577	627235	2,030	2,070	1,000
Jordan Sulpho Chemicals	140012	293728	2,030	2,070	1,000
Jordan Cement Factories	34374	33830	1,000	0,980	1,000
Jordan Glass Industries	17033	17384	1,050	0,990	1,000
Jordan Precast Concrete Industry	28184	18339	0,660	0,640	1,000
Grand total	3,119,433	7,004,930			

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

France reschedules Iraqi debts

PARIS (AP) — The French government has agreed to allow Iraq to reschedule repayments on some of its public and officially-guaranteed external debt, the Iraqi embassy in Paris said Friday. The embassy said in a statement that Iraq has agreed to make repayments within the next three months on its debt obligations falling due in 1989. Iraq will also catch up on its debt-service arrears pending from the second half of 1988. A French economics ministry official confirmed that the agreement, which is part of a "overall global financial accord," will allow Baghdad to spread repayments on part of its government-to-government and officially guaranteed debt over six years. Iraq's total outstanding debt to France is estimated at around 25 billion francs, (\$3.73 billion) most of which was contracted to pay for arms shipments. Officials declined to disclose the amounts covered by the debt rescheduling agreements that were signed Thursday.

Israeli inflation reaches 14 %

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israel's consumer price index rose 1.2 per cent in August, the government's Central Bureau of Statistics announced Friday. The increase compared with a 0.6 per cent rise in the index in July and a 0.8 per cent increase a year earlier. The index measures the changes in a fixed basket of goods and services and is watched closely in Israel, which suffered from triple-digit inflation on recently as four years ago. The bureau attributed the rise in August to increases in clothing and footwear, housing costs, fruits and vegetables. Finance Minister Shimon Peres said his ministry had expected a rise of just 0.8 per cent and that he was surprised by the higher rate. "But the index did not run away from the acceptable average," Peres told Israeli radio. "We are making efforts to lower it." According to the bureau, consumer prices have risen 14 per cent since the start of the year. Prices rose more than 16 per cent in 1988.

Talks fail to resolve cocoa crisis

LONDON (R) — Producer and consumer members of the International Cocoa Organisation (ICCO) have failed to agree a compromise package to rescue their troubled pact. "There is no compromise, no package at all," Guy-Alain Gauze, head of the Ivory Coast delegation, told Reuters as talks neared the close. Producers and consumers have been meeting all week in London to find a formula to revive price-support measures in trouble because a glutted market has weakened world cocoa prices. Both sides had expressed optimism late Friday that an accord could be reached, but contrary to delegates' expectations, last-minute conflict could not be overcome.

Inflation in Britain declines again

LONDON (R) — Britain's annual inflation rate fell Friday for the second consecutive month but Chancellor of the Exchequer Nigel Lawson said interest rates would remain high to cool the economy. The retail price index rose 0.3 per cent in August to register a yearly rate of 7.3 per cent against 8.2 per cent in July, the Central Statistical Office said. "It shows that the anti-inflation policy which I put in place is very clearly working," Lawson said on television. "Although there may be fluctuations from month to month, inflation is emphatically on the way down again." But he said he would keep interest rates high "for some little while to come" to ensure inflation continued to fall. Interest rates have almost doubled to 14 per cent in the past 16 months, putting a heavy financial burden on many Britons who have purchased homes during Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's free-market administration.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Saturday, September 16, 1989
Central Bank official rates

	Buy	Sell	French franc	92.0	92.9
U.S. dollar	609.6	615.6	Japanese yen (for 100)	416.1	420.3
Pound Sterling	954.6	964.1	Dutch guilder	274.9	277.6
Deutschemark	310.0	312.1	Swedish crown	91.9	92.8
Swiss franc	359.4	363.0	Italian Lira (for 100)	43.2	43.6
			Belgian franc (for 10)	148.4	149.9

Nabulsi: Further stability expected

TUNIS (Petra) — Further stability in the Jordanian money markets is expected soon and will have its positive effect on the commercial, financial, and economic sectors' performance in the Kingdom, according to Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) Governor Mohammad Saeed Al Nabulsi.

"There

ITF suspends S. Africa

BUENOS AIRES (R) — The International Tennis Federation (ITF) suspended the South African Tennis Union on Friday until South Africa abandons its policy of apartheid.

"We have had increasing pressure from the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and many governments wouldn't allow South African players in," ITF President Philippe Chatrier told a press conference after the four-day annual general meeting.

The move prevents tennis from losing its recently gained Olympic status, said Chatrier, a Frenchman who was re-elected for another two-year term as ITF president. The IOC announced

three weeks ago it would ban all athletes competing in South Africa from the Barcelona Olympic games in 1992.

South Africans have been excluded from other international tennis competitions. They have not played Davis and Federation Cup for 11 years and have never entered the World Youth Cup.

The motion for suspension came from the Nigerian Lawn Tennis Association with support from Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden and was passed easily. "I cannot disclose the voting, but it was an enormous majority," Chatrier said, adding South Africa's status would be reviewed each year.

Coe bids farewell to fans

By Mike Collett
The Associated Press

LONDON — Sebastian Coe bid farewell to his British fans then laughed off a prediction he would be the prime minister of Britain by the year 2010 — on an emotional night of track and field at the Crystal Palace stadium.

Coe, who turns 33 on Sept. 29, said Thursday that he would retire from the sport after next January's Commonwealth games at Auckland, New Zealand. His appearance Friday in the 800 metres in the McVities challenge invitation meet was his last on a British track.

After retiring from competition, he plans to take up a full-time political career.

After winning his race in a leisurely time of 1 minute 45.70 seconds, Coe, interviewed over the public address system, was told that a London bookie was offering odds of 3-1 that he would win the Commonwealth 1,500-metre gold, 7-1 that he would be a government minister by the end of the century, and 66-1 on becoming prime minister by 2010.

Coe laughed and said: "That's all a long way down the road. Very fanciful, very hypothetical. I'd just like to live for this moment in this stadium tonight."

He said later it would take "two or three weeks for it to sink in that this was my last race in Britain."

Coe had delighted the capacity crowd with his victory. Kenyan world champion Billy Konchellah acted as a pacesetter, dropping out with 300 metres left to allow Coe an untroubled journey to his

final triumph on a British track. Coe put aside his usual ice-cool image long enough to wave to the crowd as he came down the home straight.

He will now take a two-week break before starting his training for the games at Auckland.

He will leave for Australia in early December and prepare for the games with a "mini-Olympics" buildup and by competing in various pre-games meets in Australia before going to New Zealand.

Coe has never failed to win a medal in a major championship and said, "anybody in athletics who makes predictions in football, but I would hope to maintain that record in Auckland."

The final major European meet of the season was dominated by Coe's race and, for once, Moroccan multi-world record-holder Said Aouita had nothing more than the equivalent of a walk-on part.

Aouita said before the meet that he was attempting to break Steve Cram's four-year-old world record of 3 minutes 46.32 seconds, but over remotely looked interested in doing so out on the track.

Fellow Moroccan Faouzi Lahbi and American Jim Spivey went off on their own as pacemakers and Aouita was content to win in a slow time of 3:54.16.

East German Jens-Peter Herold and Britain's Peter Elliott, the bronze and silver Olympic 1,500 medallists, respectively, finished second in 3:54.55 and third in 3:56.09. Ireland's Marcus O'Sullivan, who lives in



Sebastian Coe

Philadelphia, was fourth in 3:56.66.

Former mile record-holder Steve Ovett, who broke down in tears on British television following the national championships six weeks ago, ran his first race since then and finished 10th in 3:59.66.

Ovett fell out with promoter Andy Norman over payment arrangements but despite Norman's involvement with Friday's meet, Ovett said, "I wanted to run in this meet as it was Seb's last one."

Reigning world 110-metre hurdles champion Greg Foster of the United States scored a rare victory this season — in a race without the current world leaders, Roger Kingdom of the U.S. and Britain's Colin Jackson.

Olympic champion Kingdom, who set a world record last month and won the World Cup last weekend, is back in the states,

while Jackson pulled out of the race after spraining his right ankle warming up.

Foster, the only world-class athlete in the race, won in 13.96 seconds, more than a second off the 12.92 world record that Kingdom established at Zurich a month ago.

Olympic champion Andre Phillips led an American whitewash in the 400-metre hurdles, winning in a respectable 48.32 seconds, .01 seconds ahead of David Patrick, with Danny Harris third in 48.57.

Sheila Echols, one of two American women to win events in the World Cup at Barcelona last weekend, faded over the last 20 metres to finish behind Pauline Davis of the Bahamas in a slow 100-metre race. Davis clocked 11.46 seconds to win with Echols finishing second in 11.83.

Olympic silver medallist Linford Christie, who won the men's 100 in the World Cup, ended his season on a victorious note in a running suit fashioned like a James Bond-style dinner jacket complete with black bow-tie.

Christie, the subject of a fashion feature in style-setting Vogue magazine, showed the rest of the field the way home in a slow 10.47 seconds with fellow Britons Marcus Adam second in 10.65 and John Regis, who was forced to pull out of the 200 metres at Barcelona because of injury, third in 10.67.

Steve Backley, who has dominated the men's javelin all summer, won his event with the longest throw ever seen in Britain with the new implement — 280 feet, 11 inches.

Amman Little League Soccer

scores
Friday, Sept. 15, 1989

TOTS

7-Up (2)	vs	Intercoo (2)
Wang (3)	vs	Konica (0)
Jordan Express (2)	vs	Int. Traders (4)

JUNIORS

A.I.C.I. (1)	vs	Pirelli (0)
Mr. Chips (1)	vs	Volvo (1)
Pepsi (1)	vs	Budget (0)
Apple (2)	vs	Jordan Insurance (1)

MIDS

Arab Bank (1)	vs	Al Hikma (1)
Jordan Ornam (0)	vs	Westinghouse (0)
Danish Dairy (1)	vs	NECC (1)

SENIORS

Cairo Amman Bank (2)	vs	Nash-Ebb (2)
Pan Am (0)	vs	Aramex (1)

Soccer Standings

TOTS	W	L	T	GF	GA	PTS
Int. Traders	1	0	0	4	2	3
Wang	1	0	0	3	0	3
Intercoo	0	0	1	2	2	1
7-Up	0	0	1	2	2	1
Jordan Express	0	1	0	2	4	0
Konica	0	1	0	0	3	0

JUNIORS	W	L	T	GF	GA	PTS
A.I.C.I.	1	0	0	1	0	3
Apple	1	0	0	2	1	3
Pepsi	1	0	0	1	0	3
Mr. Chips	0	0	1	1	1	1
Volvo	0	0	1	1	1	1
Budget	0	1	0	0	1	0
Jordan Insurance	0	1	0	1	2	0
Pirelli	0	1	0	0	1	0

MIDS	W	L	T	GF	GA	PTS
Al-Hikma	0	0	1	1	1	1
Arab Bank	0	0	1	1	1	1
Danish Dairy	0	0	1	1	1	1
Ordan Ornam	0	0	1	0	1	1
NECC	0	0	1	1	1	1
Westinghouse	0	0	1	0	1	1

SENIORS	W	L	T	GF	GA	PTS
Pan Am	1	0	0	6	1	3
Cairo Amman	0	0	1	2	2	1
Nash-Ebb	0	0	1	2	2	1
Aramex	0	1	0	1	6	0

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF

Both vulnerable. East deals.

NORTH	EAST
♠ 7 5 2	♠ 4
♥ 6 4	♥ 10 8 5
♦ 10 8 5	♦ 7 4 3
♣ 8 7 4 3	♣ A K J 8 6

SOUTH	WEST
♠ 10 4	♠ 9 3
♥ 10 7 3	♥ A Q J 8 2
♦ 9 6 3	♦ 7 4 2
♣ A K	♣ A K J

The bidding:

East	South	West	North
1 ♠	2 ♠	DM	Pass

Pass Pass

Opening lead: Nine of ♠

The saddest words heard over the bridge table are the plaintive, "But partner, I had an opening bid!" That usually means that someone went for a large penalty—and it usually should have been avoided.

The key to making an overall, especially at the two-level, is suit quality. A six-card suit headed by 100 honors and nothing else is better

than a 15-point hand with a ragged suit. If you want to see why, take a look at what happened to poor South on this hand.

South's two-heart overall seemed innocent enough—that is, until West doubled. East won the spade opening lead with the king, cashed the king of diamonds and then continued with ace of spades and another. West ruffed and returned a diamond, allowing East to win two tricks with the jack and ace.

East ended with a trump and West captured declarer's nine with the ten. He returned a club to declarer's king. After cashing the ace of clubs, declarer was forced to lead a trump. He chose the jack, taken by West's queen.

Back came the queen of clubs, forcing declarer to ruff. He then had to lead away from his king-seven into West's ace-eight tenace. That meant that declarer scored only three tricks, for a set of 1,400 points.

"But partner, I had 13 points," cried South. North gravely leaned over and changed South's score to minus 1,387.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1989

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: It is difficult to get the good will and cooperation of associates whose good name and respect is worth a great deal to you. The Moon trine Uranus offers an opportunity to exercise self reliance.

ARIES: You approach a time when some interesting trips suddenly come up with exciting friends. Big arrangements for the future can be decided upon by you and your family.

Taurus: Attending to the details of a financial plan will give you a greater amount of security. Take your family as much as possible to interesting restaurants.

Gemini: This is the time to make fixed plans for having a more regular and changed income. An excellent time to consult with craftsmen about having everything perfect at your home.

MOON CHILDREN: Going on short trips with friends several times today could bring much pleasure. Seek information you need in business from various specialized periodicals.

Leo: Follow your instincts about the best way to do your work. Put in motion a long-thought-out plan to better handle finances.

Virgo: You have very ingenious ideas for performing daily duties well. Take time out to do what will please and give confidence to any of your family members.

Libra: What you do of a constructive nature at your home can

last for a considerable time. This is the day to seize opportunities that are at your fingertips.

Scorpio: Use your present social popularity to contact and be with many friends. You now see a new business venture that will put money in your coffers.

Sagittarius: You can make friends with those in high positions without difficulty. Making changes at your home can be to the benefit of everyone who lives there.

Capricorn: If you have had any difficulties with any friends, you now have the chance to reconcile. It is not the time to put that instant, unusual new business project in effect.

Aquarius: Having any difficult business persons come to your home can solve problems easily. This is the day to seize opportunities that are at your fingertips.

Pisces: Bring in as many outsiders as are available to aid you with your activities. Consider how you can tactfully approach your benefactor for more benefits.

Today's child: If your child were born today he or she will learn many lessons during childhood that will not be necessary to repeat later in life, because they have learned them well. This nature will have great patience and be an exceptional listener who has a host of interesting friends.

"The stars impel, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you.

By Paul Radford
Reuter

MARSEILLE, France — The European soccer map shows Marseille between Barcelona and Naples on the Mediterranean coast.

The French port shares with the Spanish and Italian cities an exuberant joie de vivre atmosphere, a public passionately devoted to football, and a pronounced tendency to indulge in fantasies.

What always separated Marseille from the two established giants of Mediterranean soccer was the cash and the ambition to go with it.

Or it was until Bernard Tapie came along with both.

"I will give you a team never before seen in France," Tapie, president of Olympique de Marseille, promised his club's faithful fans before the start of the season.

The Socialist millionaire's vision of turning Marseille into European champions is not to be derided.

He has put his money where his mouth is, splashing out well over 100 million francs (\$15 million) on eight new players to create a team to match his own huge expectations.

Of the side which lined up for the first leg of what Tapie anticipates as a long campaign — a first round European Cup match with Brondby of Denmark — every player except local product Eric di Meco had been bought within the last 15 months.

Marseille won 3-0 with a superb second half display which must have sent the first warning signs to competition favourites AC and Inter Milan, Real Madrid and Bayern Munich.

Home fans are still somewhat bemused by it all, more accustomed to the ups and downs of a team with a reputation for irritating inconsistency.

Their uncertainty shows. Before the Brondby match, discussion in the streets, shops and bars was about whether their beloved OM would get through the first

round, not over which team they would meet in next May's final.

Frightened off by the high prices of match tickets, only 18,000 turned up, a figure which would look pitiful in Barcelona or Naples.

Tapie nevertheless remains convinced the fans can provide the necessary impetus to gain the greater glory he seeks.

"The raison d'être of OM is its public," he said. "There is no other example in France of such a happy union between a club and a town. It's this adventure which drives me."

Tapie is certainly not mistaken about the Marseille public, who make up any shortfall in numbers with their volume of noise.

Their vocal support is intimidating to opponents. Brondby midfielder Per Frimann said after the game: "The fans are amazing — it's like having a 12th player against you."

A capacity of 45,000 may not provide the same backing as a crowd of 120,000 at the Barcelona Non Camp or 90,000 at Naples' San Paolo stadium but Tapie has not hesitated to use the methods of the two bigger clubs — spend, spend, spend.

He tried this summer to sign Argentine World Cup Captain Diego Maradona, now of Napoli, formerly of Barcelona. He failed but the long-running saga gave Tapie and his club three months

of continual and valuable publicity.

Even in France, where no club has ever won a European trophy, Tapie's grand ambitions have begun to be taken more seriously.

He signed Englishman Chris Waddle for a barely credible 45 million francs (\$7 million).

If Waddle had signed for his going market rate of around half that figure or less, the deal would have attracted only scant attention. As it is, Waddle and Marseille became media obsessions.

Whether Tapie can pull it off — and whether the somewhat mysterious way the transformation of Marseille has been financed will hold together — remains to be seen.

But even the doubters have to take Tapie's plans seriously. He took over a club on the brink of ruin three years ago and spent his way to the French double last season.

His present team has a distinct

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in
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Hungary border remains open

BONN (R) — Hungary will keep its border to the West open indefinitely after this week's exodus of East German refugees, Prime Minister Miklos Nemeth said in a West German newspaper article released Saturday.

In a commentary published in the Bild am Sonntag Sunday newspaper, Nemeth dismissed criticism from East Germany's hardline Communist leadership over the border opening, which Budapest had previously billed as temporary.

More than 13,000 East Germans surged across the Hungarian border with Austria on their way to start new lives in West Germany after Hungary's reformist Communist leadership opened the frontier last Sunday.

West German border police said Saturday a further 500 East German refugees arrived during the night, and officials expected a few hundred to continue arriving daily for the present.

The refugee wave was poisoned East Germany's relations with Hungary, an ally in the Soviet-led Warsaw Pact alliance, and with West Germany.

Budapest Thursday rejected East German demands that it seal the border and said East Berlin was to blame for the exodus. In an official note, Hungary said it did not see how it could revoke its decision to suspend a 1969 pact curbing passage of each other's nationals to third countries.

East Berlin has accused Bonn of luring its citizens to the West. West Germany has brushed aside the attacks, saying the flood of emigres would not cease until East Germany embraced democratic reforms sought by its people.

Most of the East Germans who reached West Germany this week waited in Hungarian camps for weeks.

But many refugees arriving in the past four days obtained visas to visit Hungary and drove non-stop through Austria to West Germany, bypassing rigorous East German emigration curbs.



A father embraces one son while a second rides on his shoulders after arriving at a reception camp near Freilassing refugee camps on the West German border are swelling with East Germans arriving from Hungary

Nemeth said Hungary opened its frontier for the refugees because of "a moral obligation to charity and a duty to bring fundamental human rights to bear."

In East Berlin, East German state-run media stepped up criticism over the refugees, with the Berliner Zeitung daily accusing the West of waging "merciless psychological warfare against socialism."

"In the face of complicated development problems in the socialist countries, Western

media and politicians have stirred up anti-Communist hysteria reminiscent of the worst periods of the cold war," Berliner Zeitung said.

Responding to East Germany's criticism, Nemeth said: "I can only answer: Hungary opened the border in keeping with the principles of the Helsinki agreement."

He was referring to 1975 treaties guaranteeing free movement of peoples signed by every West and East European country except Albania.

South African police keep to hands-off policy on protests

CAPE TOWN (R) — Police Saturday followed the South African government's new hands-off policy towards protest, keeping a low profile as hundreds of dissidents buried a child and two youths they say were shot by police.

In an unprecedented move, traffic police on motorcycles escorted about 1,000 mourners singing revolutionary songs as they marched to a cemetery to bury one of 23 people who dissidents say police killed in election violence last week.

Riot police in an armoured vehicle followed the one-kilometre-long funeral procession of 13-year-old Patrick Muller to a cemetery in Cape Town's coloured Belleville South township. They made no effort to intervene.

Reformed churches leader Allan Boesak, who officiated at Muller's funeral, reiterated a demand that Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok resign over the shootings.

"Patrick's blood is on the hands of the minister of law and order and on the hands of (President-elect F.W.) de Klerk," he told the funeral at his own Dutch Reformed Mission church in Belleville South.

"We will be drowned in rivers of blood if justice does not prevail."

In nearby Khayelitsha black township, 600 mourners buried a five-year-old girl, Nontanzu Matshebele, and Mulungisele Qhatshana, an 18-year-old boy, both killed by gunfire, in a subdued ceremony.

Police, who until this week had fired shotguns and teargas and wielded whips and clubs to crush protest, did not intervene.

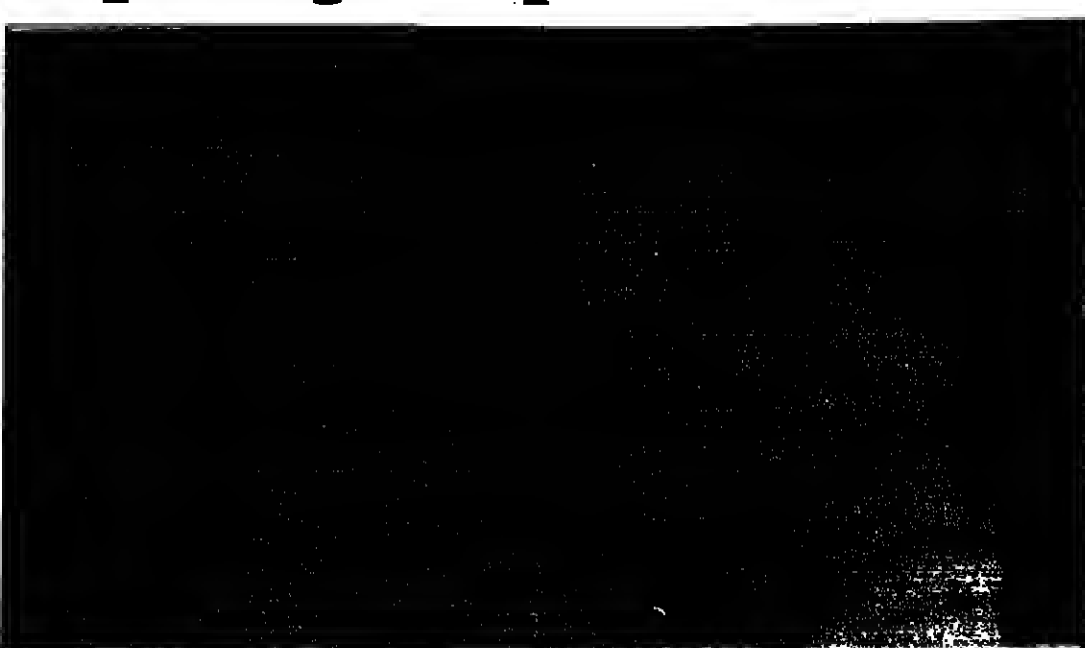
The funeral of 18-year-old Pedro Page, who dissidents say was shot by an off-duty policeman, was due to be held in the city's coloured Parkwood township.

Previous funerals for victims of political unrest have been marred by prolonged clashes between police and demonstrators.

Marches and outdoor gatherings such as township burials where political speeches are made are usually banned under three-year-old emergency regulations.

Church leaders scaled down predictions of unrest at Saturday's ceremonies after de Klerk this week allowed protest marches in Johannesburg, Cape Town and Pretoria, the country's three largest cities.

Analysts say de Klerk's new stand on dissent was likely to herald several moves to avert



Mrs. Hilda Levy (right) mother of 13-year-old Ricardo who was shot dead by South African riot police last Wednesday, is comforted by a friend during her son's funeral.

future, substantive peace talks.

Carters was leaving Saturday for a three-day fact-finding mission in Nicaragua, and the Ethiopia-EPLF talks here will conclude upon his return Tuesday.

Observers of African affairs had said at the outset of the Atlanta talks that Carter had accomplished something by merely getting Ethiopian officials and the rebels to sit down together.

Carters himself said he feared the animosity between the two sides might doom the talks before any progress was made.

But he told reporters Friday both sides had gotten along well.

"I would tell you, the determination on both sides successfully to resolve the differences that have caused the war has been very obvious."

The leaders of the respective delegations — Ashagre Vigein, head of the government Central Committee's Foreign Relations Department, and Alamud Mohamed said, an EPLF politburo member — appeared with Carter at the news conference but neither took questions from reporters.

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Ethiopia, EPLF to pursue peace talks

ATLANTA (AP) — Ethiopia and Eritrean rebels have agreed to meet in Africa to discuss an end to their 28-year-old war, but former U.S. President Jimmy Carter says "significant" disagreements remain over the framework for the talks.

Carters said Friday that the two sides made progress in negotiations in Atlanta to set an agenda for peace talks, agreeing on such items as the official languages, publicly recording and procedural rules for the next talks.

Still unresolved after a week of meetings are who would serve as co-chairmen for the peace talks, who would be allowed as observers and what would be the duties of the meeting's staff, Carters said.

The talks would be held in one or more of these nations: North Yemen, Egypt, Sudan, Kenya, Tanzania and Zimbabwe. Carters said no date for the peace talks has been set.

Representatives of the Ethiopian government and the rebel Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF) have met daily, except last Sunday, since Sept. 7 with Carter acting as a neutral observer to draft an agenda for

future, substantive peace talks.

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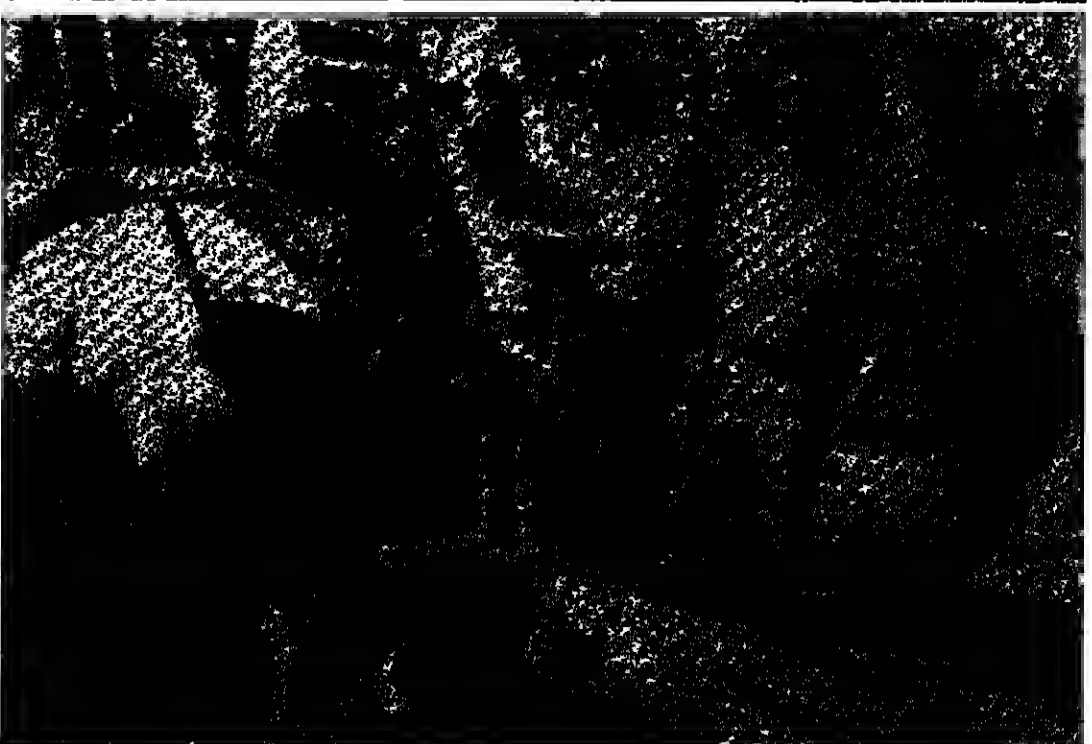
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The body of the driver of the former Mayor of Medellin Pablo Paez Gonzalez who was killed along with Gonzalez is removed from the scene soon after they were ambushed by gunmen believed to be hired by Colombian drug lords.

Colombian air force ordered to shoot down suspect planes

BOGOTA (Agencies) — The Colombian air force has been ordered to shoot down any aircraft suspected of being used for drug trafficking, according to a Defence Ministry spokesman.

"Any aeroplane which is detected flying without authorisation or in suspicious circumstances will be shot down," the spokesman, who asked not to be identified, told Reuters.

He said the unprecedented measure applied to aircraft flying over restricted or forbidden areas, to those without any authorised flight plan and to aircraft landing in unauthorised places or on clandestine airstrips.

He said the air force would keep two fully-armed planes on permanent alert and added: "From today, the air force increased routine patrols, in particular, near coastal areas."

National alert

The army and national police were braced for attacks by cocaine traffickers Saturday, a national holiday called the day of love and friendship.

Seven bombs exploded in three cities Friday, injuring eight people.

No one claimed responsibility, but a series of such attacks over the past month have been linked

to drug lords at war with the government.

The Defence Ministry put the country's 200,000-man army and 80,000 national police on alert, cancelling all leaves and keeping the forces on standby.

A few hours later, three bombs exploded at banks in the south-west city of Cali, seriously injuring five people.

In Medellin, home of the cocaine cartel by the same name, a bomb went off Friday night and two policemen were injured as they drove by.

The army announced later Friday that 28 suspected guerrillas were arrested in Medellin and accused of "carrying out terrorist acts together with narco-traffickers."

An army communique said the 28 belonged to the National Liberation Army, one of six leftist guerrilla groups known to operate in Colombia.

It would be an unusual arrest since most of the nation's drug cartels are right-wing and consider leftist guerrillas enemies. Part of the reason for this is that frequent army-guerrilla fighting interrupts cocaine processing operations in the same areas.

Bogota police chief Nasin Gianini Diaz said reports of "telephone terrorism," in which callers make bomb and death

threats, increased in the capital on the eve of the holiday during which Colombians exchange gifts.

"Citizens should take the threats seriously and report them to police," he said in an interview on Colombian television. "But we are guaranteeing a peaceful day of love and friendship."

The telephone threats came after bombs went off at three Bogota banks early Friday and another was deactivated at a fourth bank. One person was reported injured in those incidents.

Armoured trucks and soldiers were sent to guard and other government buildings in the capital. Before Friday's attacks, most of the bombings had occurred in Medellin, Colombia's second-largest city.

Banks are frequent targets of the nation's powerful cocaine traffickers. They have declared "total and absolute war" on the government, which began a crackdown on trafficking after a leading presidential candidate, Senator Luis Carlos Galan, was assassinated Aug. 18.

Under emergency powers decreed by President Virgilio Barco, authorities confiscated hundreds of properties allegedly belonging to drug kingpins.

Salvador talks to focus on ceasefire

MEXICO CITY (R) — Salvadorean rebels said Friday they hope their agreement with the government to hold ceasefire negotiations could mean peace by Christmas, but a Catholic church mediator doubted the decade-old civil war could be ended that soon.

After a three-day meeting in Mexico City, the government and Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) rebels said they would meet in San Jose, Costa Rica, on Oct. 16 and 17 to begin monthly ceasefire negotiations.

In El Salvador meanwhile, thousands of workers, students and peasants pressed for peace by marching through the streets of the capital with banners calling for an end to the civil war that has cost an estimated 70,000 lives.

Journalists estimated the crowd at the Independence Day march at about 15,000, making it one of the largest demonstrations in recent years in El Salvador.

Following signing of the agreement in Mexico City, FMLN commander Shafik Handal said the rebels hope to see a ceasefire before Christmas.

But San Salvador auxiliary Archbishop Gregorio Rosa Chavez, who served as a mediator during the talks, did not expect peace that soon. "There are too many things that must be resolved," he said, adding that if the two sides managed to continue their talks, that in itself would be a significant advance.

Under the agreement the government and the FMLN both will name negotiating panels with decision-making powers to represent them at the monthly talks.

"The topic of discussion (in Costa Rica) will be a cessation in hostilities based on government and FMLN proposals," a joint statement said.

It said representatives from the Organisation of American States (OAS) and the United Nations would be invited to act as witnesses during the San Jose talks.

The Catholic church, whose participation was originally opposed by the government, will act as a mediator during the talks, according to the accord.

THE Sunday Crossword

Edited by Herb Eitzen

REPEITION
By Don Johnson

ACROSS

1 Surveys
4 Set up for the
9 Manned Orb
14 Locks
20 Entrance to a
21 T.S.
22 Biotic
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24 Whole
25 Big mink?
26 Reported coyote
27 Thrasher
28 Range
29 Ostrich circle
30 Unearthly
31 Well-grounded
32 Transgressions
34 Circus employees

DOWN

1 Coldest wind
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3 Early Britisher
4 Salvadorean man
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8 Shipwreck
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